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SUMMER BLOOMING PHLOXES

(Written for Vick's Family Magazine.)

THE TALL Phloxes, varieties of *Phlox paniculata* and *Phlox suffruticosa*, are in summer the showiest flowers in our garden, and their arrangement has cost us some care. There are many new varieties, many of them in beautiful shades of carmine, vermilion, crimson, blood-red, and even scarlet. In old times such a thing as a scarlet Phlox was unheard of. Twenty-five years ago we had light magenta pinks, dull crimsons, whites, and white with pink centers. That was about all. The beautiful new sorts are the result of careful crossing and selection, and are, many of them, sent out by French horticulturists.

As many of the colors of the newer sorts do not harmonize with each other, we have found it necessary to divide our Phloxes into several groups.

In a long border, in a very conspicuous position near the house, we have the scarlet kinds, beginning with such sorts as *Flambeau* and *Coquelicot*, and shading off to a light salmon pink that harmonizes with scarlet. For the sake of contrast we have, in this border, three groups of pure-white Phloxes, the variety called *Amazone* being the one used to soften the effect of so much brilliant color.

In another border we have begun with dark, intense crimson sorts. Next to these is a planting of a lighter shade of crimson. Then the beautiful variety, *Henri Murger*, which has very large florets, white with crimson eye, is grouped between the shades of crimson flowers. The border is completed by some pink Phloxes that harmonize well with the crimson.

Some Phloxes begin to flower in June. These are, for the most part, rather dwarf, and are hybrids of *Phlox suffruticosa*. One of the best of these, whose season of bloom is longer than that of any Phlox known to me, is *Miss Lingard*. This Phlox is rather dwarf, begins to flower about the first of June, and produces blossoms until September. It is pure white, and the trusses of bloom are so freely produced that they completely cover the plant. When the first crop of blossoms begins to fade we remove them, and, after a short rest, a second crop is produced, almost as profuse as the first.

Though many kinds of tall Phloxes begin to bloom in July, they are usually in their prime throughout the month of August in this climate. As the trusses fade they should be removed, that the plants may not exhaust them-

selves in the production of seed. Phloxes need a deep, rich soil and plenty of moisture in the flowering season. In planting them, even in well prepared soil, we usually dig a deep hole, two feet is not too deep, and then put in a generous spade-full of well-rotted cow manure. Then we put in the plant, spreading out the roots, and sifting in fine loam around them. Firm the soil in well, and water freely.

Phloxes bloom better in partial shade than most flowers will. Indeed they are all the better for some shade, as the hot suns of mid-summer are very apt to brown their stems and shrivel their foliage. Mulching with cut grass or long manure is a good expedient in dry weather.

We divide our Phloxes every two years. The first expense of buying good specimen plants is all that is

necessary, as they increase rapidly under favorable conditions, and are extremely long-lived. In the old kitchen garden here are some pale magenta Phloxes, that I remember when I was a little girl. They have not been disturbed for twenty-five years, yet they bloom profusely every summer.

We have tried many varieties. Some of the best crimson ones that we have here are *Eclairer*, which has very large bright crimson flowers with a distinctly marked crown of lighter crimson in the center of each blossom. *Sesostris* and *Oberon* are two very distinct sorts, with beautiful, rich crimson flowers. *Oberon* is one of the darkest of all Phloxes, if I have it true to name. *Le Vengeur* is a fourth crimson sort, lighter than the others, that it might be well to include in a large collection. All these are tall sorts with very large florets.

There are so many fine pink sorts that it is hard to make a selection of the best. I can heartily recommend *Ornament*, which is bright salmon pink, with a velvety center of a deeper shade; *General Chanzy*, a brilliant light carmine; *Adonis*, a good china pink; *Pantheon*, a lovely, soft rose, and *William Robinson*, which has very large trusses of bloom, a soft watermelon pink with rose-colored centre.

Antoine Rivoire is a splendid blood-red, and *Captain Wilhelmy* is a distinct shade of wine red, with silvery sheen, and darker centre. The most brilliant vermilions and scarlets are *Coccinea*, *Flambeau*, *Coquelicot* and *Caran d'Ache*.

Either dealers are careless in naming new varieties, or else there are too many too-much-alike Phloxes. Thus I have two plants, one labeled *Flambeau*, and the other *Coquelicot*, and I cannot see any difference between them.

White Phloxes are extremely useful in the garden. We have tried *Amazone*, which is dwarfer than most of the hardy Phloxes, but which is a very good kind for planting in front of taller sorts; *Richard Wallace*, white with pink centre, with rather smaller flowers than *Henri Murger*, which is a grand sort, very free, and with lovely white flowers with large rose-colored central rings; *Mignonette*, a new French sort, quite distinct, with crimson centre and white extremities; *Pelleton*, pure white with rosy center, very large flowers, rather dwarf habit, and *Jeanne d'Arc*, still one of the best of the pure whites, very tall and a profuse bloomer.

Take them all in all Phloxes are among the most valuable and beautiful of summer-blooming perennials, and a good collection of them is a source of great satisfaction to the fortunate possessor.

Danske Dandridge.



SUMMER BLOOMING PHLOXES.

Confessions of a Canna Crank

Yes, a canna crank. I might as well confess it, and my friends may laugh and welcome. Each flower lover usually has a floral hobby, a pet plant. Therefore, can you wonder the canna is mine, when you consider the ease of its culture, the size and beauty of its flowers and its wonderful freedom of bloom?

By Mrs. D. C. Boothe

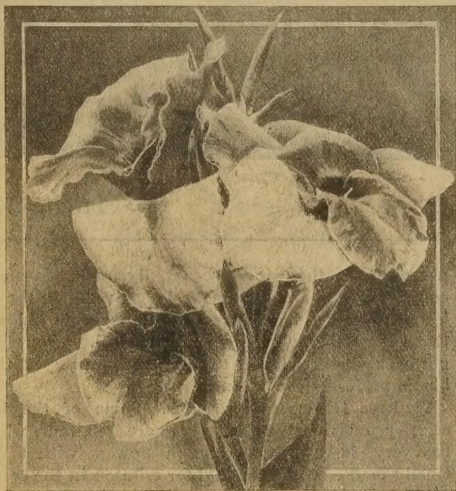
curl up, foliage, or rather their lack of it, being their weak point. Some cannas may boast of leaves as dainty and rich in coloring and many hued as the begonia, while the tender, refreshing green of their foliage is delightful to the eye even before they bloom.

The canna is a plant one can afford to be generous with, as it can be propagated so easily from its numerous offsets. A small plant, stuck in the corner of a box of other plants during winter, was divided into nine pieces, each of which was soon a sturdy, thrifty plant, producing both bloom and offsets in wonderful abundance.

Canna seeds germinate easily if boiling water be poured over them. This causes the hard outer covering of the seed to burst slightly at one end, with a small snapping noise. A second or third application of hot water is sometimes required.

Cannas are no trouble in winter, since the tops can be cut off and the roots stored in a dry, frost-proof cellar. Failing a cellar, their broad tropical appearance attracts much notice, when kept growing in the greenhouse. If they

growth and manner of blooming. Like Crimson Rambler, it has proven to be valuable, not only for garden planting, but as a florist's rose for flowering in pots and using as a decorative plant. The color is a lovely



CANNA

Truly, the canna is the king of bedding plants. The good old geranium has become a has-been, quite an old story in fact. The canna is of a far more recent introduction, yet has been grown long enough for us to realize it is no novelty of doubtful merit, but a standard plant of unquestionable worth, well deserving the richest, sunniest spot on the lawn and diligent use of the watering pot. Sunshine, fertility, and water constitute the secret of successful canna growing, but, if unable to obtain any of the three, the sturdy canna will still grow and bloom on contentedly. Last summer, by no means a wet one, I watched with some curiosity the behavior of a canna that got little water, save from chance showers. Moreover it was in the shade of a large tree, and the soil not particularly rich.

Both the plant and its leaves were smaller than is otherwise the case, and the flowers later in appearing. But after beginning to blossom, one flower stalk after another was rapidly pushed up, each bearing numerous blooms, large and showy as ever.



STOKES' ASTER (See p. 24.)



DOROTHY PERKINS

The heliotrope is a grand bedder, but so thirsty that if watering be omitted for a single day, the plant will wilt and droop in a tell-tale fashion. Unless shielded from the noonday sun, begonias curl up their brilliant leaves as if they were really resentful of Sol's ardent kisses, while the canna loves the almost tropical heat; and on the other hand tuberoses and gladiolus have no leaves to

grow too tall for their quarters, cut back and be rewarded with extra lavishness in the way of offsets.

Strictly speaking, the canna may boast but two colors, yellow and red. But the latter runs through nearly every shade from deepest crimson or warmest, brightest scarlet to soft, pale pink. Again what a difference in the striking contrast between Alsace's creamy petals and Austria's crown of burnished gold! Then comes the "gilt-edged" canna, with a narrow line of gold outlining each brilliant petal of scarlet; and then again crimsons flaked and mottled with yellow, or vice versa in a seemingly endless variation of beauty. Possessing both tall and dwarf varieties, the canna may be used either in beds or as single specimen plants, being charming in both ways.

Horticultural Reciprocity.

(Written for Vick's Family Magazine.)

Although the Crimson Rambler rose originated in Japan, it was through the agency of English rose growers that it first became known in the United States. This country has now reciprocated and has produced a hardy climbing rose which has met with great favor, not only at home but especially among English rosarians, where it bids fair to become a close rival of Crimson Rambler in popularity. The new rose we refer to is named "Dorothy Perkins." It is a lovely companion rose for Crimson Rambler which it much resembles in its habit of



DOROTHY PERKINS

shell-pink and holds a long time without fading. The petals are very prettily rolled back and crinkled and the buds are especially dainty.

This rose is an example of what may be accomplished in the systematic breeding of plants. Such work is no longer left entirely to chance, but to secure a new variety combining certain desired qualities, there are chosen for the parent varieties sorts which possess these qualities to the most marked degree, the same as in the breeding of cattle. The crossing (or hybridizing, as it is also called) is effected by transferring the pollen, or male element, of one flower to the pistil, or female element, of the other, but the operation is fraught with so many uncertainties that complete success can be hoped for only once in many, many times.

The "Dorothy Perkins" was grown from seed of the trailing Memorial rose (*Rosa Wichuraiana*), hybridized with pollen from that grand old rose, Mme. Gabriel Luizet. The seed parent was



PHILADELPHIA (See p. 23.)

chosen for its hardiness and vigorous habit of growth; the pollen parent for its beautiful color and remarkable freedom of bloom. The qualities of both are combined to a remarkable degree in the hybrid, which was one of a lot of two hundred seedlings hybridized in the same manner

Some Beautiful New Asters

NO OTHER flower has received so much attention during the last few years as the aster, and no other has shown such marked improvement. It is only comparatively a few years ago that the "China Aster" of most gardens was a single flower, usually pink or white, with a large yellow center. Now the range of color has been so developed that all shades and tints from white and delicate pink to deep red and purple are shown, and in shape and size of blossoms there is an almost endless variety, of the most double forms.

It is not strange that asters have become indispensable in every garden, and it is not difficult to account for their popularity. Few flowers combine so much variety in manner of growth and profusion of bloom with such brilliancy and richness of color. Certainly for magnificence of display in autumn the aster stands unrivaled. Vigor of growth and ease of cultivation also have much to do with the popularity of this favorite flower. It is not fastidious as to soil or location, and so is likely to succeed when grown by the amateur. Though it likes a rich soil, it will give very satisfactory results when planted in ordinary garden

and are sometimes sold for the latter. The long, narrow, wavy, delicately curled petals are gracefully formed into loose, double flowers of great size and artistic beauty. The long stems make them exceedingly graceful and effective for use as cut flowers for vases, particularly for table decoration. Specialists are constantly at work developing new strains of this favorite type.

One of the latest asters put on the market is Olmstead's White Commercial, a corner of a field of which is shown below. This new aster is the result of crosses between the Queen of the Market, Victoria, Comet, and Dwarf Queen, as seed bearers, and a very tall pink variety as a pollinizer. The pink aster was somewhat of a freak, often growing three feet tall without branches, and having very large leaves along its stem, like a chrysanthemum. The White Commercial grows to a height of two feet with from four to six stems of blossoms from fifteen to eighteen inches long. The stems are slightly curved, carrying the flower tipped to one side sufficiently to show it to the best advantage. The blossoms are usually about six inches in diameter, but, with proper treatment, they will often

But when I made the places for them, into each hill there was thrown a generous spadefull of hot bed manure from an old bed; this was mixed with the soil, then the plant set, watered and firmed according to approved methods. This worked all right in the two hills where the soil was poor, but where the ground was fairly rich, the plants got an enormous growth. There were some beautiful blossoms through June, but the hot sun of July and August spoiled them. But how the plants grew—over six feet on the south side and not in shade—but it seems most of the energy went to stems and leaves, so many of the buds blasted. They set enough all the while, and in the fall were full of buds and some bloom, when they should have been sturdy, shapely bushes full of blooms with a few buds. This season I shall not fertilize where the plants are set; later if they need it, I will give in liquid form, as they require. *Emma Clearwaters.*

An Easy Way for Invalids to Grow Annuals.

No doubt there are many invalids besides myself who have found themselves deprived of their favorite annuals because their health would not permit them to be in the garden early enough to sow the seed, nor to transplant seedlings into beds made the usual way.



OLMSTEAD'S WHITE COMMERCIAL ASTER.

mold. From seed sown in the open ground in May, plants can be obtained that will bloom finely in September and October.

Asters were formerly considered strictly a fall-blooming flower, but many new varieties have been originated and now the flowering season extends from July until severe frosts. But, except for the florists who make much use of asters for decorative effects, those varieties which bloom through the fall months and constitute the principal adornment of the garden when other flowers have fled, are the ones most generally cultivated. By making selection of different strains, a succession of bloom can be obtained and the flowering season greatly lengthened. Asters like considerable moisture, and the late blossoms are usually the finest, the cool weather bringing out the colors in an admirable manner. A bed of asters will furnish more cut flowers than any other plants occupying the same space, and no other annual will give so magnificent a display during the late summer and fall months. Asters are divided into numerous classes and all of them are beautiful and worthy of cultivation. The Branching, Comet, Daybreak, Lavender Gem, Ostrich Plume, Purity, and Semple's Pink, are all well-known and popular varieties. One is sure to have quantities of beautiful blossoms from any one of them.

The Comet type of aster has become a general favorite. The blossoms closely resemble chrysanthemums,

measure seven inches across. The color is a pure, glistening white, which does not change even when kept for ten or twelve days. The blossoms are of the Comet type, with long, narrow, wavy petals, and greatly resemble chrysanthemums. The blooming season begins early in August.

Mrs. Lydia McMann, who had a bed of them last year, says: "I was one of the favored few entrusted last year, by the originator, with some of the seeds of the White Commercial Aster. For nearly fifty years I have bought seeds, plants, and bulbs from all over the country, but there has never been a bed of anything on my grounds that gave me so much satisfaction as these asters. The bed looked like a great, solid bouquet of white. They were just like greenhouse chrysanthemums, and every one was a beautiful, pure white. I believe the seed is to be offered for sale this year, and, though I have no financial interest in it, I hope that every lover of pure white flowers will try these Asters."

The White Commercial is certainly a beautiful aster, one of the finest I have seen. It would be hard to give it too high praise. *Florence Beckwith.*

Some Dahlia Notes.

Last Spring I started my Dahlia tubers in boxes and cans in the house, in March, a proceeding I shall always follow when able. By the time planting out was in order, (indeed it froze after they were out,) they were just thrifty plants, as they had not been rushed.

For the benefit of such I wish to tell how I solved the problem and now have annuals each year. Long before it is warm enough for me to be out-of-doors, I sit at the kitchen table and sow the seed in shallow, wooden boxes. I keep the boxes of seedlings in the house until warm enough to set them out of doors in a sheltered place, and as soon as the weather will permit I transplant them into the garden.

As I live on a farm where hens run riot, I never use annuals for massing in borders, as it is impossible to protect them from hens when grown in this way; hardly perennials being the plants to use for this purpose on a farm, as hens can do them little harm. I grow annuals wholly for cutting, and so have them located at the rear of the house, in one large plot about thirty feet long and twenty wide. Arranged thus, they can easily be protected from the ravages of hens and chickens with woven wire fencing which can be obtained two feet wide for about five cents per yard. One side of the plot being close to the house, the wire fencing is required only on one side and the two ends to enclose it; which makes a saving of ten yards of fencing. Old broom sticks cut one foot longer than the width of the fencing, sharpened at one end and that end driven into the ground one foot, standing three or four feet apart around the plot, make good stakes to secure the fencing to. These are less

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TALKS ABOUT FLOWERS

By Benjamin B. Keech

Seed Sowing in the Living Rooms.

WHEN flower growers have no hot-beds or greenhouses, they may often start their flower gardens in boxes of soil in the living room windows, provided that the conditions are not too adverse. A sunny window is preferable, but a west one will do if a south one is unavailable. See that every place where wind and frost can creep in is securely stopped. If the window is near an outside door, fix up some arrangement to ward off the cold air. If a large collection of flowers is to be raised, provide two shelves,—one at the bottom and one half way up the length of the window.

If you do not have the terra cotta seedpans used by florists, collect some shallow cigar boxes or tin basins in which to sow your seed. These will generally serve the purpose very well. As to the soil to use, if you are not in the habit of keeping a box of prepared earth on hand, and the ground outside, is frozen, the only alternative is perhaps to turn from their dishes some of the bulbs which have flowered, and use that soil. When dirt is procured from out of doors dry it nearly dry and pass it through a sieve until it is fine and unclumpy. In the bottom of each receptacle, which should be provided with a few nail holes, place a fourth of an inch layer of coarse sand for drainage. Still this need not be done if you have found that drainage is unnecessary, which in many cases, it is. Next put on some dead leaves, slightly pulverized, to hold up the prepared soil. When this is filled in, pat it down quite firm, but not enough to pack it. Smooth over and sow the seed, scattering them evenly and reasonably thick. Sift soil over them until they lie under a covering about twice as thick as the seeds, themselves. Moisten the soil quite thoroughly, unless it is originally moist. If the dirt washes from the seed, replace it; then set the pans in the window. Provide the boxes with some sort of covering which may be wet and placed over them and yet admit enough air and light for the welfare of the seedlings. Blotting paper is generally the thing to use. Cut a piece for each pan or box and hold it up from the soil by means of two small sticks, placed under it. Through this blotter give all the water needed for a number of weeks. It is not best to pour water directly on the soil because where the air in a room is very warm and the soil in the boxes very moist on top but dry underneath, the seedlings are apt to "damp off" and fall over, worthless.

By wetting the blotting paper every morning, or oftener, you can keep the soil properly and evenly moist, and the seeds will stand in no danger of decaying. If the blotter does not afford sufficient moisture to penetrate all the soil, set the boxes in a pan of warmish water, and when the soil on top begins to grow wet, remove. Leave the blotters on until all the seeds have germinated; then take them off so that the seedlings will not grow spindling.

Give water now by setting the boxes in tepid water, as directed above, and remove as soon as it soaks up through. Encourage into strong, stocky growth, but do not let the sun shine directly upon them when the soil is wet. Pin a paper next to the glass on very bright days. Seedlings enjoy a good light but not too strong a one. They also enjoy an average temperature of about sixty-five degrees during the day. At night it may be necessary to keep a lamp burning near them to prevent the thermometer from registering lower than forty or fifty.

If the seeds come up pretty thick, do not hesitate to

thin them out. They will undoubtedly be much better for doing so. Plant some of them off into small pots or boxes, leaving a certain per cent in the seed pans. By no means allow them to grow too thick. Sometime during May it will probably be safe to set them out on a sheltered porch during the day, so that they may derive benefit from the outside air and become accustomed to the change that is not far distant. Use judgment and do not put them out before the weather is suitable. Bring into the house at night, when it seems likely to freeze. Water may now be poured on the soil with safety. By the second week in June, if the weather permits, the plants will generally be in good shape to transfer to their permanent home in the flower garden.

See that the ground is mellow and well prepared. Scatter a liberal coating of decomposed manure over the beds and work it into the soil. As far as practicable give each variety a plot by itself. Have the rows straight and do the work as it ought to be done. A board thrown down will be good to kneel upon while setting the seedlings, and a cord stretched across



GIANT COMET ASTER.

the beds will guide one where to plant. Do the transplanting on a cloudy day or after the sun has gone down. If it can be helped, do not set the seedlings out while the sun is shining brightly on the flower beds. If the ground is dry be sure to water it thoroughly, especially where a specimen is to be placed.

Do not let the plants suffer for moisture at any time during the summer. Destroy every weed, and keep the soil mellow and open by frequent hoeing. A mulch, composed of grass clippings or old, decayed manure will be greatly appreciated by the plants. It collects moisture at night and retains it during the day; thus the roots are kept comparatively cool.

Seed may be sown in the living rooms in March, April or May; but if you wait until the last named month, perhaps it would be better to sow the different varieties out of doors, in mellow soil where the sun shines pretty much all day. Vegetables, and that very excellent class of plants known as perennials may be started indoors, if one wishes. But this article is written more particularly in regard to annuals and their culture.

Annuals of Merit.

Annuals are a class of plants which may be grown with comparatively little trouble. They give generous returns for the attention they receive, be it much or little. There are few flowers more generally pleasing, especially to the person who can devote but little time to the culture of plants.

The aster is perhaps our most beautiful and satisfactory annual. The flowers are produced in great abundance and embrace many new and charming colors. Personally, I consider the comet asters about the most pleasing of any. Words fail one in attempting to describe them. The great, feathery blossoms are magnificent, especially the white ones, and may readily be mistaken for chrysanthemums. The comet and branching varieties should be set ten or twelve inches apart, each way, while the smaller kinds may be placed nearer together. The pansy is greatly loved wherever it is cultivated. The bright, winsome "faces" in the flowers appeal to young and old alike. There are numerous good strains from which to select, and by buying a packet here and there a varied and charming collection may be had. A bed of pansies will give more satisfaction than almost any flower you can grow. Pansies like a cool, deep, rich soil. If there is a place in your yard which is shaded from ten o'clock till night make the plot for pansies there. Of course do not plant them directly under the shade of trees.

Mellow and enrich the ground well and get the plants started as early as possible. Set them from five to eight inches apart. See that they never lack for water. This is one secret of success in growing pansies. Keep the blossoms well picked, so that new ones may take their places. A frame built around them in fall, filled with leaves and provided with a top, will carry the plants through the winter, and the blossoms will be larger and richer in the spring than at any other season.

Phlox Drummondii is pre-eminently satisfactory and pleasing. It should be grown by every one who is fond of bright, showy flowers. It is just the thing to plant where it may be seen from the kitchen window, or any other window where you spend the most time. Scarlet, pink, crimson, white, and light yellow all flash their brilliant colors together and seem none the less in-harmonious for being planted near each other. Where solid masses are desired, or where ribbon beds are to be made, no flower is better adapted to such a purpose.

No annual is easier to manage and none will give as bright and pleasing a display from June until frost. Give the plants a sunny situation and see that they have all the water they need. Set about four inches apart.

The petunia is rich and showy in striking hues and markings. It will surely delight all flower lovers, especially those who have never grown it before. Do not have the soil too rich as this may cause the plants to run to foliage rather than to flowers. Set them a reasonable distance apart—about a foot, usually—and keep the soil open and moist. In the fall, a few thrifty seedlings may be potted and placed in the window garden, where they will generally do well. Cut the branches back when they begin to grow scraggly.

The verbena is indispensable to the first class flower garden. It is almost, if not quite as bright-colored as the phlox; indeed it would be hard to equal the purples, scarlets and pinks found among these flowers. A plot of them, in a sunny situation, will make a bright,

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Through Fields and Woodlands

By N. Hudson Moore

The Heralds of Early Spring.

"My ear is listening for the sound
Of earliest bird upon the tree,
Or sparrow flitting o'er the ground,
Whose note so welcome is to me.

How long the trees have silent stood
Through the cold, cheerless winter days!
How lone the fields, the turnpike's road,
While hushed so long the sparrow's lays!

They tell of Spring's returning reign,
With its warm sun and milder sky;
That every stream has burst its chain,
And the green grass and flowers are nigh.

When man with nature, too, awakes,
And feels with it the quickening breath,
And of the general joy partakes
Of earth's return from sleep and death.

Come quickly then, with welcome song,
Ye heralds of the early spring;
Why tarry on your way so long,
Nor haste your joyful notes to sing?"

Jones Very.

BY THE first of March, even though it comes in like a lion, we have a feeling that the breath of spring is in the air. We can countenance with equanimity even one or two snow-storms, or a blizzard, for by this time we are very sure that such rude manifestations are but the expiring attentions of the vanishing winter. More creatures than ourselves have felt the prophecy too, and if you will wrap yourself well and go forth, you will find that both eyes and ears, will be rewarded.

The song sparrow has for a week been tuning up his pipe which never seems so sweet and penetrating as when it is breathed forth from the twig of some leafless bush. His little speckled breast fairly palpitates with emotion, and being a fearless bird if you take the trouble to spread some crumbs for him, he will come to your very door-step in search of them. Indeed if you give but a scant supply, and leave your door open a crack with some appetizing morsels dropped within the house, he will come in for them. Having once found the way he will come daily for his rations and pay you in golden measure by his song.

The trees too have waked up, and on numbers of them will be dark stains showing the running sap. If you examine closely such places as these you will be filled with wonder at the number and variety of little creatures which are seeking refreshment there. There are not only several varieties of flies, which, too eager and stupid to remain on the outskirts have plunged into the sticky stuff and died, but even a butterfly or two, and most numerous of all, the bees.

Every year the same procession takes place, the same changes go on all about us, the same birds and flowers may be expected, and yet each year it seems ever new. There are those who miss this. Oliver Wendell Holmes says, "yet there are great multitudes who are present at as many as three score and ten performances, without ever really looking at the scenery, or listening to the music, or observing the chief actors."

What busy actors are these bees! How little many people know about them. Only last summer I heard a graduate of one of the largest colleges in the country, state that a bee had bitten her! There are no other insects which are equipped with two tools so elaborate and intricate as a bee's tongue and its sting, one situated at each end of the body. The delicacy of these two organs, the marvelous way in which they work, the dart which pierces and the poison which flows into the wound have made the bee an object of study to many brilliant scientists. One may on their own account study them to a certain extent, and Sir John Lubbock, a great English investigator, had a bee which was a pet. His account of this little creature is most

interesting. For seven years she was his constant companion, traveling about with him in a glass bottle which he carried in his vest pocket. She never stung him but once, and then he says it was because she was "startled." He was going from his country home to London by train, and took the bee from her bottle so that he might fondle her and allow her to crawl about his hand. She was so doing when the guard suddenly opened the coach door which so alarmed the bee that she immediately stung the thing nearest her, which happened to be Sir John's finger. He put her back in her bottle and allowed her time and seclusion to recover her temper. When this aged and famous bee died Sir John presented her body to the British Museum, where she now reposes.

These first bees we see in the early days of March are out in search of pollen, a very necessary ingredient of bee diet and more welcome to the insect when it first emerges than even honey. It finds this pollen in a plenteous store in one of the most unattractive plants of our whole herbarium. Long before one is apt to think that any plant has had the courage to



SKUNK CABBAGE.

poke its head above ground, particularly in a damp and frozen marsh, the skunk-cabbage is up and doing, untwisting its pointed cap, so that the pollen on its spathe is easy of access.

The honey bee knows this and starts out to find it. It is an amusing sight to see a bee when after a whole winter without pollen she first alights on the skunk cabbage. She rolls about and tumbles in the golden dust, kicks it about until she looks almost like a lively golden ball, and then when her first joy is over, combs the precious stuff off her back with her active legs and stores it away in her pollen baskets, and flies joyfully home. Trip after trip she makes to this store house, returning home heavily laden from each trip, her momentary friskiness forgotten, and once more her grave industrious self. John Burroughs tells very graphically what she does on her return to the hive.

"When a bee brings pollen into the hive, she advances to the cell in which it is to be deposited and kicks it off as one might overalls or rubber boots, making one foot help the other; then she walks off without even looking behind her; another bee, one of the indoor hands, comes along and rams it down with her head and packs it into the cell as the dairy-maid packs butter into a firkin."

Years ago bee-bread was an article of diet as well as honey. In old-fashioned hives where bees did everything for themselves, bee-bread as well as honey was stored in the comb, and children delighted in hav-

ing it spread on their bread with honey. Nowadays the bee-keeper carefully removes it all from the comb sent to market, and most people have never seen even a grain of it. Rye flour or oatmeal is substituted by the bee-keeper for pollen, and the bees will sometimes take it, although they will travel miles for the real pollen if it is in their neighborhood.

If you cannot go to the marsh in search of your bees, hunt for them in the branches of evergreen trees that reach nearly to the ground, or on the catkins of alder or willow. On the blossoms of the latter they find honey as well as pollen, and you may hear the bees murmuring their pleasure, long before you reach the tree.

Next we are to listen for a piper; perhaps I should say pipers, for if we are lucky, and the sun should have thawed the ice pretty well, we may hear two, as at the earliest sign of spring they rise out of the mud and pipe away for their own satisfaction and for ours. The one I love best to hear is called Pickering's frog (*Hyla Pickeringii*). You all must know his clear, shrill whistle, which in the spring seems unusually thrilling. Move quietly to the water's edge. Two bulging eyes and the tip of his pointed nose are all we can see. If we could induce him to show himself we should find he was a tiny creature to make so much noise! From one inch to an inch and half is all he measures when seated by the side of his favorite stream. He is yellowish in color, marked and mottled with darker spots of the same shade. This frog has on the end of his toes queer little pads. Can you guess what they are for? Not for swimming, but for climbing! After the summer sets in this frog betakes himself to trees and bushes, and from his perch we hear him all the summer and late into the fall.

One other friend in the bog is the *Acris crepitans*, sometimes called from his cheerful note "bog cricket." His voice, to my mind, is not so pleasant as Pickering's frog, but he has a much gayer dress. Olive green, with spots and dots of red and black, and on his sides large spots of black outlined with white. He is a tiny creature too, about the same size (one and one-half inches) as his friend Pickeringii.

The *Hyla versicolor*, which we heard last October in the woods, gets started a little later than Pickering's frog and the "bog cricket," and so keeps going a little later in the fall.

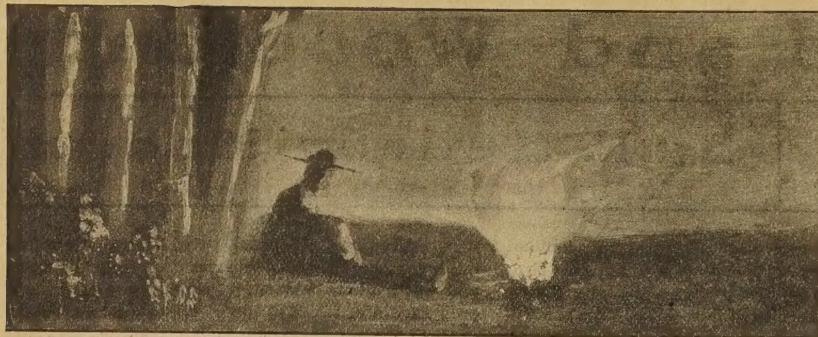
Pussies

Pussies—a thousand pussies,
Furry and soft and gray,
Woke when the sun this morning
Called them out to play;
Pussies—a million pussies,
Everywhere, east and west;
Frolicking furry darlings—
(I love gray pussies best.)

Pussies—wonderful pussies
Frisk in the warm, soft breeze,
Whirl and spring in the sunshine,
Swing on the swaying trees;
Then when the wind grows quiet,
And shadows are long and deep,
All of the dear gray pussies
Cuddle themselves to sleep.

Wouldn't you like to see them
Frolicking all at play?
Wouldn't you like to hold them
Stroking their coats of gray?
Then let's go where the willows
Grow by the brook—and see
The gray little Willow Pussies
Waiting for you and me.

Mabel Earle.



The Hero of The Hour

By Julia M. Klinck

Winner of First Prize in our recent Short Story Contest

HOLLIS KEENE sat his broncho like a graven image of misery. The horned cattle grazed on the blue stem, the tawny Platte crawled like a slimy serpent across the landscape; the wind shrilled through the grass but he neither saw nor heard. Those Herculean shoulders usually squared to meet any storm or danger with the exhilaration of a provisional conqueror were now bent as with the weight of years. With the woman he loved lost to him what wonder that his heart seemed dead within him;—dead as the dun sand dunes which gnashed their teeth impotently toward the heavens.

This goodly strip of grass land where the cattle grazed was not their natural habitat. They had been bred upon broader plains; branded under more burning skies. With the eye of a connoisseur and the patience of a hunter, Keene had journeyed from herd to herd in the farther West selecting a score here, a dozen there, the very "cream of the grass," until he had "bunched up" some twenty-five carloads, which would represent, as he believed, the best that could be bought of western "stuff."

Now after a wearying trip overland they were safe at last upon his range, and here the ranchmen came from roundabout to select at good figures such as they wished for winter feeders. This cutting out process would occupy ten days perhaps; when the residue would be consigned to a commission firm and shipped to Omaha.

How buoyantly and blithely he had toiled; through untold perils he had passed, tossing them as lightly by as the breezes which blew about him, fearing naught and caring naught, because of the sweet hope which dwelt in his heart and made all earth to him an Eden.

A month! and even now he could feel a strange sweet thrill over his heart where a golden head had rested and the clinging touch of a tender little hand lingered warmly yet in his great strong palm.

With his broncho lariatd out close by and his saddle for a pillow, many a night he had lain in his blanket under the Cacti and Yucca, beneath the silent stars and felt no loneliness. He had sweet thoughts for companionship, for which he would exchange of his own wish no other, until he came again to her who had inspired them. Every day's toil and every night's camping had brought him nearer to his heart's desire; and now with his quest accomplished, he felt that he was free for a few hours at least, to go where love and longing led.

A little matter of twenty miles and back after sunset and before the covering of the campfire! What was that on the back of a fleet footed broncho! So, with a backward wave of his sombrero at "the boys," who cracked their cattle whips at him like so many pistols by way of a cheerful send-off, the broncho's hoof-beats, pattering under him like hail, began measuring off the miles toward Minden.

Supper and a shave, swift resurrecting of citizen's clothes at the little inn, a bath and a change of raiment made a new man of him, though the ground seemed to swim under his feet from so much constant swaying in the saddle.

A bar of Juanita was checked on his lips as he neared the roistering groups on the street. Passing the "White Elephant" which guarded the outmost bounds of the business section in that early day, he came to the residence part of the town whose only distinguishing mark in many instances from the surrounding prairie, were the little painted pickets set at the corners telling ambitiously the names of the streets and avenues in Hull's addition to the original town plot. These signs of advancing civilization caught but a cursory glance; for Hollis' heart out-spied him up the hill, to the little cottage with its vine-wreathed

as a bubble but a moment before, sank down like lead. All his lightsome joy left him. Mechanically he made his way back to the inn, answering with the monotony of an utterly weary man the greetings of the chance friends he met. Mechanically and methodically he repacked his "glad rags"—they were sad enough now. —paid his reckoning and essayed to walk his broncho out of town.

Now a broncho can't walk: he does not know how. He can buck every inch of the way for twenty miles or "scratch gravel" with the sand half way up his fetlocks as far; but to bring him down to a walk is a humiliation which he resents. So, though the iron hand on the rein never relaxed, Zip true to the traditions of his race, began a series of evolutions which served him well in beguiling the way and consuming the time until the covered camp fire was reached; and with it all there was ample room in Hollis' mind for much better and conjectural thought.

So evening after evening Hollis had ridden to the town only to find on each occasion the young doctor paying court to Anita and usurping his own place at her side. Once he heard them singing together and it brought a poignant pain to Hollis' heart to note how even better than his own baritone the doctor's tenor blended with Anita's rich contralto in that langorous love-song, Juanita, and knowing how on the flood of song, the sweetest, tenderest fancies float, he felt his cause a lost one; his fair castle of hope came tumbling about his ears like a card house, and his heart seemed to lie a wreck beneath the ruin.

Of course Hollis, being a man of nerve, played a good game of bluff before the boys; so none knew of his chagrin nor of the jealousy that was corroding his soul. Sometimes as he lay wakeful and wan by the campfire, he was appalled by the fury which seemed to possess him heart and body; which sent him hot with rage on long purposeless sprints through the sand-hills when herd and hinds lay sleeping, to try if might be to walk off the demon which turned again and rent him; which seemed to taunt him in the darkness and dog his footsteps until

the first faint gleam of dawn sent him worn and weary to his work.

Well he knew that in justice to his own manhood he should meet the doctor and assert his position as Anita's accepted lover; yet he did not dare to so much as speak to him, lest the rage he was keeping down with strong hand should slip its leash, and hurry him on to the commission of some unthinkable crime. He was appalled by his own capacity for feeling. Love and Hate, two mighty forces, were contending in his heart. It was a bloody battle ground; and he knew that on results hung his weal or woe for life. The enforced idleness too was simply maddening. There was nothing for him to do but sit his broncho—it were almost death to dismount among the cattle,—and brood over his trouble. In the broad acres he had striven so hard to gain, in his choice herd, he had lost all pride



veranda wherein he had passed the happiest hour of his life but one short month ago.

What if she should be there! it would be joy! joy! joy! to meet her thus; unhampered by formalities or the presence of friends; then unhindered, heart could speak to heart in the little hour vouchsafed them and —aye, surely there was Anita herself in the rustic seat. He could see the fluff of her muslin frills even in that dim light. His heart gave a great bound, then stood as suddenly still; for a second glance revealed young Dr. Fielding, the only man alive whom he feared as a possible rival, sitting upon the verandah rail opposite her. Opposite, thank the Lord! but even as the thought flashed through his mind the audacious doctor arose, and quite as though he had the right and unrebuked, seated himself in the vacant seat beside Anita.

Hollis waited to see no more. His heart, buoyant

of possession. In fact, what were they at last but so many dead weights hung around his neck to clog him in the race for love! Race? There was none. He was out of it. The young doctor was in Anita's class and evidently congenial. He was polished, educated, handsome. In former days, before a clash of interests had blinded him to merit, Hollis had voted the doctor a "good fellow." What had he, the poor ranchman, with which to match him in the contest for all that earth could give of joy and peace and virtue! Nothing but his strong hands and his true heart. His slow tongue could never turn the neat phrases which catch a lady's ear. His broad acres might never be worth a penny in the market. His cattle—well they were his stock in trade. He should sell them to buy more, that was his business. A vocation in which he had formerly taken great pride and pleasure, but how could he hope to match it as a winning card in the game of love against a learned profession.

What interest could she take in his business even at its best? She did not really know about cattle; could not probably distinguish between a "maverick" and a "two-year-old stocker" and should he win her, how could she, almost fragile in her trim daintiness, endure the hardships of a ranchman's wife?

Thus by cold reasoning he proved to himself over and over again, the utter absurdity of his suit, and tried to persuade his heart to release its hold upon its one desire. But love knows naught of expediency; so his heart held true to the fixed star of affection and while he resolved not to interfere if Anita preferred another, in his heart he felt that Dr. Fielding's life was only safe so long as their paths lay apart.

So the weary days wore on. The Nebraska breezes beat and buffeted him. The blazing sun poured down upon him and the cloudless skies interposed not even a mist to modify the intense heat which was reflected by the dun grasses of the prairie, fast scorching under the fires of September. Tomorrow was the tenth day of their sojourn in the Platte valley. How glad he should be to exchange the dull death of idleness for the strenuous life of labor!

He had but to send his shrill whistle over the dunes and across the far stretches of the prairie and activities would begin at once. The day was propitious; the cattle were ready; and the "stock cars" were waiting on the B. & M. track. Should he do it? A man does well to hesitate before burning the bridge by which lies his only way to life. That whistle sounded, all would end, for once away, he should never return where life had emptied all its vials of bitterness upon his head.

So he sat a limp heap in the saddle. The bridle had slipped over Zip's head and the broncho was cropping the blue stem in serene satisfaction. Thrice Hollis put out his hand to gather up the rein and thrice drew back. He would wait yet another day; another and another. The days lengthened to a week, the ten to fifteen. The boys, chewing at the long grass stems, began to wonder audibly "what was up with the old man and when he meant to hit the trail?"

Still Hollis made his nightly pilgrimage to the shrine of his love, never to find her unattended by her devoted knight. From this there could be but one deduction. So at last there came a day when his manhood rebelled against such maudlin inaction and one still morning—when even the wind seemed too worn-out to rise,—Hollis gave the signal to break camp.

Ah! how quickly the scene changes. Like soldiers who have lain too long inactive on their arms, the cow boys look eagerly forward to the "brush" ahead. In suppressed excitement they gather around Hollis who as "boss of the round-up" issues orders with the nonchalance of an old campaigner.

Two by two the cowboys depart to ride the circle, to gather up the stragglers and to round the cattle to a common center. As soon as they have gone, all is quiet again. Over there in a pocket of the hills the cook and his "sub" are packing the "chuck" wagon. Hollis on his broncho is outlined like a bronze image against the blue of the morning sky, his pedestal a sand dune which commands an unbroken view of the prairie and the progress of the "round up." Below him the cattle are

grazing quietly, making their last breakfast off the blue-stem. No hint of a change has as yet disturbed their perceptions. They crop away with sighs of bovine content.

Overhead the blue sky sparkles, the lark's song drops down like a benediction. Even the Platte reveals a gleam of beauty where the rising sun turns its tawny breast to gold. Soon the stragglers begin to come in. The grazing herd raise head and sniff danger. Now if panic seizes them they will begin to "mill." This even at the risk of life and limb must be prevented. No ranchman if need arises, hesitates a moment to plunge into the raging maelstrom of broad backs and tossing horns and with sombrero off and yelling like an Apache, by sheer force of will, endeavor to break the terrible "grind" which will, if not soon checked, result in serious catastrophe to the herd.

Hollis stands ready to rush in and break the mill in its incipency. Zip dancing around on whalebone legs knows the danger as well as his master, but champs the bit and squeals to get into the thickest of the fray. Hollis holds him back though he inches sideways as far as he can. Never mind Zip. Save your strength for greater need. There will be no milling today. The foresight and skill of experience will forestall this; but wild-eyed and terrible, the cattle surged on, a great, seething, sweeping, irresistible cataclysm of animal life.

The din to a "tenderfoot" would be appalling; but Hollis, at home with his herd, knows it for the natural language of the occasion and heeds it no more than the chirping of the crickets in the grass. The cattle are bellowing, the collies barking, the cowboys are yelling like demons; the thud of those thousands of hoofs on the ground comes to the ear in a sound like distant thunder; and over it all the dust rolls up like a cloud of smoke above an old-time battle-field.

The cattle crowding on, sway this way and that at the will of the commander-in-chief, and gradually quelling the din and excitement, the great herd is cut up into sections and quietly enough at last swing into the trail toward the station.

(Continued in April number)

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FOR THE CHILDREN

Exposed by a Dog

Willanna Lee Hawk

THE CHILDREN had been clamoring for a story and Uncle William, whose stories always pointed a moral, had consented to tell them a "real, true one." It was to be a boy's story this time but little eight year old Elsie was one of the group of eager listeners.

"Boys who tell lies and steal," began Uncle William, meditatively, "are sure to get caught at it sometime, but it is not often that a dog plays the part of detective."

"A dog detective!" cried the children in surprise. "Yes, indeed," replied their uncle. "It happened this way. When I was a young man, I used to go gunning for ducks in the season, and it was while thus engaged that I had the little experience I am going to tell you about. On the morning in question. I took my old bird dog, Rover, and started out to hunt for ducks. My friend Harry B accompanied me, taking his young dog with him. We intended to train him by running him with old Rover who was a perfect hunting dog.

We hired a boat and Harry having placed himself in the bow with his gun held in readiness to shoot, I took the oar and sculled the boat slowly up the little creek where we expected to find some game. We moved along silently till we came to a narrow place where the dense overhanging foliage drooped low over our heads and we were compelled to stoop to get through. Just then two ducks flew up out of the long grass and Harry tried in vain to bring his gun to his shoulder. The overhanging branches were in the way, and seeing his predicament I dropped the paddle and hastily throwing my gun to my shoulder, took quick aim and fired!"

"You hit him!" cried Harry excitedly, and as he spoke the duck fluttered and fell into the tall Indian grass in the meadow and was lost to view.

We went ashore as quickly as possible and set the dogs upon the trail, having lost ten or fifteen minutes in looking for a landing place. Old Rover smelled around for a while and finally came to a point in the grass, his example being promptly followed by the young dog. When we reached the spot we found traces of blood and feathers but the duck was not there.

"Perhaps it crept away in the grass," suggested Harry.

"There would be a plain trail if it had," I told him, and stood for a moment looking about me in a puzzled silence. There was a cornfield a little way inland and I saw a boy of perhaps twelve years in the field, busily husking corn.

"Let us ask that boy," Harry, said, I "perhaps he saw it fall." Walking over to the lad I asked him if he had seen a wounded duck anywhere.

"Oh! yes," he replied. "It flew right over the woods there."

He pointed to a small wood some distance away and went on with his work. Now I did not believe that boy for he could not meet my glance and I never trust any one who cannot look me in the eye.

"I believe you are telling me a lie!" I said sternly, but he protested that he had told the truth and nothing but the truth. Harry was looking on in silence, and going up to him, I said in a low voice, "Harry, that boy knows all about the duck and I am sure he knows where it is!" My friend looked incredulous but he was soon to see my suspicion verified and in a very unexpected manner.

The dogs had been sniffing around while we were talking and old Rover had finally come to a point before a large corn shock some distance away, the young dog close behind him. Turning to the boy I said again, "You are sure you are telling the truth about the duck?"

"Yep!" he answered positively and with an air of injured innocence.

"On the contrary, you have been telling lies all this time," I said indignantly, "and I am going to prove it!"

Turning to old Rover who was standing as immovable as a statue in front of the corn shock, I said encouragingly, "Go in Rover, and fetch it out!" At the word the noble dog rushed into the shock and promptly reappeared, carrying in his mouth a bundle, which he laid at my feet, wagging his tail and looking for praise. I patted him on the back, but Harry started forward with an exclamation of surprise and opened the bundle, which proved to be the boy's coat in which the dead duck was carefully wrapped. We turned to the boy who stood covered with confusion.

"Ye can't fool them fellers, can ye?" he began sheepishly, but here Harry's indignation overcame



SCENE IN A SUGAR CAMP.

him and he proceeded to give that boy a severe lecture on lying and stealing which I am sure he must remember to this day, nor has he, I'll warrant, ever forgotten how shamefully he was exposed by a dog.

Old Rover was, of course, the hero of the day and much petted in consequence. I was very proud of my dog detective. I assure you.

The story was ended.

"I should almost have died of shame if I had been caught in such a lie!" said Rob, the eldest, with decision.

"I wish I had a dog like old Rover!" sighed ten year old Ted. "I feel sorry about the poor duck!" said tender hearted Elsie. "I could not have killed it."

Uncle William looked from one to the other in silence a moment, then as he took his hat to go to his office, he said gravely, "Quite right little woman! Hunting is a cruel sport except where it is necessary to supply man with food," then turning to the boys he added, "Lads, I have given you a lesson in honesty, but your little sister has given you another in mercy. The next story shall be for girls."

Miss March.

A tripping up the street, one morning in spring,
I met a wee maiden—a fly-away thing—
All dressed in soft gray from her head to her toes—
Her dear, dimpled face was as pink as a rose.

The breezes were blowing her bonnie brown hair,
Her ribbons were flying, now here and now there.
Said I, "Are you really a little girl, please,
Or are you a little live wandering breeze?"

She smiled and she dimpled, she laughed in great glee,
"To think, my old friend, that *you* shouldn't know me!"

She lifted eyes, winsome and winning and arch,
And said in a whisper, "My name is Miss March!"
A. E. Allen.

Thomas a Kempis.—A True Story.

(Written for Vick's Family Magazine.)

Thomas a Kempis is a fine large cat, of the tiger species. His fur is very soft and silky, and shades from pearl to black. He always wears a collar and a bell which tinkles as he moves around.

Kempis formerly belonged to a little girl named Laura. She was an invalid and was obliged to lie in bed most of the time. Pussy used to jump on her bed every morning and she would feed him bits of buttered toast from her breakfast tray. Finally Laura's father died and as she was then left alone she went to board with a lady friend, so a home had to be found for Kempis. At first pussy was disconsolate, and missed his little friend, but as the new home had a large garden, and he was well cared for, he soon grew contented. He is very bright and goes through a number of tricks. He will be a dead pussy, lying down with his paws straight and stiff and his eyes closed, but he will wag his tail. He will also jump through a hoop and climb a ladder. He has a small black spool of which he is very fond. His master will put it on the newel post in the hall and Kempis will run up the steps and knock it off with his paw. He carries the spool around in his mouth and will sometimes play an hour with it. At night when his master and mistress go out for a walk, he will go along as far as the corner; when they return they will find him waiting, even if it is several hours afterward. He will run ahead of them to the house and beg to be let in.

I could tell you a number of other cunning ways of Kempis, but this is enough at present. I hope all children that read this story will be kind to their cats and dogs, and they will be sure to return their affection. Mrs. D. E. Keyser.

BOYS & GIRLS DID YOU EVER SEE A FLY'S EYE?

It looks in all directions at once. You can see it plainly with a microscope. You can also examine all kinds of insects, flowers, seeds, water, vinegar, etc. You can learn much with one and have a world of fun.

COMBINATION MICROSCOPE, 40c each or 3 for \$1.00. Same as sold at Pan American for \$1.00, magnifies 500 times and best ever produced at popular prices. It is imported from France and has a fine polished brass case, an insect holder accompanies each microscope. Price 40c each or 3 for \$1.00. See illustration on page eighteen in our December issue.

Earn One You can do it in an hour or so. For a short time we will give one for two subscriptions to VICK'S MAGAZINE at 25c. each and ten cents additional. Your mother's subscription will answer as one. Take this copy of VICK'S and start right out. You can get the subscriptions today easily. Send the money and names to

VICK PUBLISHING CO.,

Rochester, N. Y.

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Don't Send a Penny.

Don't send a penny. Just wait till you see what I can do. Let me take the risk. Let me prove up first what Dr. Shoop's Restorative can do. The Restorative will gain your friendship, your endorsement, if you test it. For a whole month you can use it without the slightest risk.

I will tell you of a druggist near you who will furnish six bottles of Dr. Shoop's Restorative a month on trial. I will absolutely stand all the cost if it fails. If you say, "It did not help me," that ends it as far as cost to you is concerned. Do you understand me? I am telling it as plainly, as clearly as I can. I want you to know absolutely and without doubt that this offer is made on honor. I have the prescription that cures. My only problem is to convince you, that Dr. Shoop's Restorative will cure—is an uncommon remedy. A common remedy could not stand a test like this. It would bankrupt the physician making the offer. And I am succeeding everywhere and here is the secret of my success. I found invariably that where there was a weakness, the inside nerves were weak. Where there was a lack of vitality, the vital nerves lacked power. Where weak organs were found, I always found weak nerves. Not the nerves commonly thought of but the vital organs' nerves. The inside—the invisible nerves. This was a revelation. Then my real success began. Then I combined ingredients that would strengthen, that would vitalize these nerves. That prescription I called a restorative. It is known the world over now as Dr. Shoop's Restorative. Thousands are accepting my offer and only one in each forty writes that my remedy failed. Just think of it. 39 out of 40 get well and these are difficult cases, too. And the fortieth has nothing to pay. That is a record I am proud of. It is wrong to stay sick when a chance like this is open. If well, you should tell others who are sick, of my offer. Don't let a sick friend stay sick because he knows not of my offer. Tell him. Get my book for him. Do your duty. You may be sick yourself, sometime. Sick people need help. They appreciate sympathy and aid. Tell me of some sick friend. Let me cure him. Then he will show his gratitude to both of us. Your reward will be his gratitude. Send for the book now. Do not delay.

Address Dr. Shoop, Box 8424, Racine, Wis. Mild cases, not chronic, are often cured with one or two bottles. At druggists.

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Book 1 on Dyspepsia Book 4 for Women
Book 2 on the Heart Book 5 for Men (sealed)
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At The Doctor's Risk

Be not like a steam that brawls
Loud with shallow waterfalls,
But in quiet self-control
Link together soul and soul.

—Henry Wadsworth Longfellow.

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THE
HOUSEHOLDOne Hundred Things Worth
Knowing.

BY JOSEPHINE WEATHERLY.

(Winner of the first prize in our late contest.)

(Continued from February Number.)

That milk which is turning may be sweetened again by stirring in a pinch of soda.

That cold rain water and soap will remove machine grease from washable fabrics.

That all vegetables are better cooked in soft water.

That a pinch of soda will soften hard water.

That onions should be soaked in warm salt water about an hour before cooking.

That eiderdown quilts, if hung out in the sun, will be restored to all the freshness and life they had when new.

That eight minutes is long enough to cook chops.

That nervous people and those with weak hearts should give up drinking coffee.

That bathing the face while it is hot and flushed will render the skin coarse.

That a good nap and a hot bath will add much to the beauty of even a homely woman.

That a cup of hot milk, slowly sipped, if taken at bed time will put flesh on the scrawniest body.

That one should never exercise hard just before or after a heavy meal.

That children need far more sleep than do adults.

That brittle finger nails frequently dipped in sweet oil, will become hard and firm.

That bags of hot salt, applied to the ear, will cure earache and induce sleep.

That baking powder spread over grease spots on a carpet and left for some time will remove the spots.

That soiled ribbons washed in gasoline will look as fresh as new after being ironed on the wrong side.

That a perfectly harmless nursery powder is made by thoroughly pounding one pound of orris root and one-half a pound of best, white starch.

That scraped horse radish snuffed energetically, will relieve nervous headache.

That long, deep, regular breathing will induce sleep.

That a solution of salt and water makes an excellent gargle for sore throat.

That a little sugar added to the water in which meats are basted will give them a rich brown color and fine flavor.

That a little vinegar added to the rinse water for black stockings will keep them a fast black.

That sprinkled salt or tea leaves on the carpet will collect the dirt quickly and prevent dust from flying all over everything.

That a mackintosh may be cleaned by scrubbing it with a soft brush and tepid soft water and soap.

That equal parts of water and vinegar will clean fly-specked furniture.

That warmed bran thoroughly rubbed into fur articles and then well shaken out will cleanse those articles.

That damp salt will remove egg stains from silver or tea stains from china.

That the bottom crust of a fruit-pie, if brushed with white of egg, will not be heavy or soggy.

That lumps of unslaked lime in the cellar will keep the air sweet and pure.

That several thicknesses of newspapers laid between the bed-springs and mattress are equal in warmth to another mattress.

That mush must be cooked several hours in order to be wholly nutritious and palatable.

That left-over bits of bread, well toasted in the oven and rolled fine, are as nice and far more economical in which to roll chops or cutlets than rolled crackers.

That pure olive oil, well massaged upon the face and neck, is an ideal skin food and a sure preventive of wrinkles.

That hot milk added to potatoes when mashing them will keep them from being soggy or heavy.

That celery should lie at least an hour in cold water or upon ice before being served, in order to be firm and crisp.

That cheese may be kept moist by wrapping in cloth wrung out of vinegar and hung up in a paper bag in a cool place.

That a pinch of salt thrown into the coffee pot will improve the aroma of the coffee.

That a piece of flannel, dampened in camphor, is nice with which to polish mirrors.

That salt and vinegar is fine for scouring kettles.

That the knife should be held perpendicularly when cutting warm cake or corn bread.

That ammonia will remove white stains from furniture.

That bed bugs may be gotten rid of by the free use of alcohol.

That flatirons rubbed on fine salt will become smooth.

That a pinch of salt added to the whites of eggs will make them whip easily.

That wash fabrics may be set in color if given a thorough rinsing in a salt and water solution before being put into the into the regular wash.

That mildew stains may be removed from articles by soaking in a solution of four quarts of cold water and one tablespoonful of chloride of lime. Wash well in clear water afterwards and hang in sun to dry.

That a new brick, well heated, wrapped in flannel, and applied to parts affected with neuralgia will cure the disease.

That a thick paste of molasses and flour will relieve burns.

That fresh butter, unsalted, if eaten freely will cure a child of summer complaint.

That the inside lining of a freshly broken egg is a fine plaster for cuts and wounds.

(Continued on page twenty-five.)

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An Exquisite Creation—dainty, graceful, becoming, an exact copy of a \$35.00 French model. Brim of closely shirred silk of rich foliage and full rosette of silk mull. Similar rosette on band under brim at left. All colors. Only \$1.95. Send 25 cts. to cover expressage and we will send this handsome hat O. O. D. with express of examination. Money promptly refunded if not as represented.

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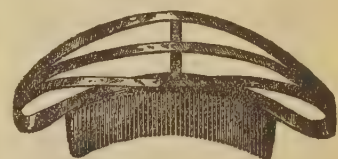
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Reference: Merchants' National Bank, Muncie, Ind.

ASTERS:

Chapter 2 (Chapter 1 in February)

Olmstead's White Commercial Aster is the grandest of all out-door flowers. For cutting it has no equal. With my free leaflet—Prize Asters—you can grow them 6 in. across, 2 ft. tall. It has received more medals, certificates, and prizes than all others. Many have been disappointed with novelties because originators put the seed in other hands and it is often adulterated. To protect you—and me, I offer seed direct. Send your address for circular and prices. They were meant for Florists only, but to readers of Vick's (say Vick's or I won't send coupon) I will send them free with a coupon good for 50 per cent discount and a package of mixed pansies, none better. Money back if they disappoint you.

CHESTER A. OLMSTEAD,

East Bloomfield, N. Y.

Dr. Shoop's Rheumatic Cure

Costs Nothing if it Fails

Any honest person who suffers from Rheumatism is welcome to this offer. For years I searched everywhere to find a specific for Rheumatism. For nearly 20 years I worked to this end. At last, in Germany, my search was rewarded. I found a costly chemical that did not disappoint me as other Rheumatic prescriptions had disappointed physicians everywhere.

I do not mean that Dr. Shoop's Rheumatic Cure can turn bony joints into flesh again. That is impossible. But it will drive from the blood the poison that causes pain and swelling, and then that is the end of Rheumatism. I know this so well that I will furnish for a full month my Rheumatic Cure on trial. I cannot cure all cases within a month. It would be unreasonable to expect that. But most cases will yield within 30 days. This trial treatment will convince you that Dr. Shoop's Rheumatic Cure is a power against Rheumatism—a potent force against disease that is irresistible.

My offer is made to convince you of my faith. My faith is but the outcome of experience—of actual knowledge. I know what I can do. And I know this so well that I will furnish my remedy on trial. Simply write me a postal for my book on Rheumatism. I will then arrange with a druggist in your vicinity so that you can secure six bottles of Dr. Shoop's Rheumatic Cure to make the test. You may take it a full month on trial. If it succeeds the cost to you is \$5.50. If it fails the loss is mine and mine alone. It will be left entirely to you. I mean that exactly. I don't expect a penny from you.

Write me and I will send you the book. Try my remedy for a month. If it fails the loss is mine. Address Dr. Shoop, Box 924, Rochester, N. Y. Mild cases not chronic are often cured by one or two bottles. At all druggists.

'Tis always morning somewhere, and above
The wakening continents, from shore to shore,
Somewhere the birds are singing evermore.
—Longfellow.

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THE MOTHER'S MEETING

By Victoria Wellman



NOTE—Letters requesting private reply should be addressed to Victoria Wellman, care of Vick's Family Magazine, Rochester, N. Y. All letters accompanied by a stamp will receive reply in due order.

Quarrels.

There's a knowing little proverb
From the sunny land of Spain;
But in Northland as in Southland,
Is its meaning clear and plain.
Lock it up within your heart,
Neither lose nor lend it—
Two it takes to make a quarrel;
One can always end it.

Try it well in every way,
Still you'll find it true;
In a fight without a foe
Pray what could you do?
If the wrath is yours alone
Soon you will expend it—
Two it takes to make a quarrel;
One can always end it.

Let's suppose that both are wroth,
And the strife begun;
If one shall cry for "Peace,"
Soon it will be done.
If but one shall span the breach,
He will quickly mend it—
Two it takes to make a quarrel,
One can always end it.

Busy Mothers.

She considered herself a very ordinary and very busy woman. Near the line of "fair, fat and forty" many would feel less ambitions to do and to be. She had borne children in pain and amid sorrows; she had known desperation which for a time darkened her faith in God—for she had known true conversion after marriage—enough to question, "Would it not be less harm to stop the new comer's arrival than to bear all it will bring to me and mine, to risk a painful death to give life to another child." Always she worked, worked on, and her religion was expressed in her life, her cheery face and bustling energy, wholesome food, and little songs—and though "pious" she sang hymns to herself or others when needed, and "coon songs" when needed, also.

She was not limited nor narrow because she was a country dweller, away from even railroad conveniences, and a very strict church member. Being human she knew the temptation to criticize and judge yet always found the thread of gold, being pitiful to all save the immoral sinner. Finances went askew and a mortgage loomed before her; it only added energy to her life. Illness had often visited her home, she having herself faced death in a hospital and met its consequent expenses. To see her work gave zest to the observer. Humming a song as she seized a scrub brush she soon brightened a dingy floor or darkened table. Food served by her was tasty, wholesome, economical, and, if such things can be, tasted cheerful as though she had smiled into the pie-crust, bewitched the bread as her round, strong arms kneaded it, and sung delicious qualities into the cake. "Poor Man's Cake" made by her made one envy the "poor man" who ate it. As the buzzing machine flew over accumulated piles of sewing, her voice often hummed a soothing hymn, and the garments grew so quickly and were so becoming it did one good to see them.

To see her clean a room was actual inspiration; you could see her spirit, victorious in its energy, in the very manner in which she grasped the broom and gave a keen searching glance around. Afterwards,—well, can words paint the restfulness of a clean room? What are its points—clean walls, shining windows, dustless floor, clearance of rubbish, brightness, fresh air. Her personality

though magnetic was too truly helpful to stimulate—she soothed the weary. Economy as a religion in food, cleanliness as a religion for body and house, cheerfulness as a religious expression visible in her face, voice, and manner, no matter how intensely weary she was—this was her unspoken creed. To do with her might whatever her hands found to do.

She was not a club woman nor a theorist, though a member of the W. C. T. U., but when at home made its care first; when nursing, or "helping" some exhausted housewife over a specially steep mountain, that which was needed she did as though thanking her God that she could do it.

Blessed be such wholesome lives! Better than sermons, they inspire and assist. Humble and lacking self-conceit, though proud in the right way, she little gauged her true value. Well may her husband and children be lonely when she is absent! Such wives, such mothers, are jewels.

All common things, each day's events
That with the hour begin and end,
Our pleasures and our discontents,
Are rounds by which we may ascend.
The Ladder of St. Augustine.

Young Mothers.

It is so pitiful to reflect upon the agonies so many countless mothers have borne as patiently as they could, at an expense to brain and body in after weakness, and a resultant dread for similar future ordeals. It is so exasperating to consider the money and time spent in endless "reforms," the victims of pain who swell countless physicians incomes by their credulous inexperience and helpless dependence on cures for effects, whereas they need knowledge of sane living, prevention of illness, help at the roots of life, not in its leafy branches.

Mothers who have borne children be not dismayed, be not doubtful; mothers who for the first time face childbirth's traditional "curse," do not believe God who gave His holy commission to you has "cursed" you, his helpers. Read, learn and tell others the good news that she who loves and prays for the boon of perfect children earnestly enough to dress, diet, bathe, and exercise rightly may secure this with no pain—or in special cases, very little indeed.

Unlimited time, endless wealth could find no better avenue than being used to emancipate mothers. Some blessed leaders have risen and given to the world the results of their studies and scientific knowledge, in glorious books which every woman needs. Let us believe, hope, and preach "painless childbirth" for consecrated mothers whose healthy bodies and souls shall produce a race prenatally blessed, not marked by moody fear or a mother's weakened body.

The travelling libraries, pause to consider, are founded in faith on facts. The "Heartsease Baby," lost later on in terrible suddenness was a glorious pre-natal and physical victory under grim outward circumstances. In memory of

(Continued on Page Twenty-Seven.)

To Women Who Dread Motherhood!

Information How They May Give Birth to Happy, Healthy Children Absolutely Without Pain—Sent Free.

No woman need any longer dread the pains of child-birth, or remain childless. Dr. J. H. Dye has devoted his life to relieving the sorrows of women. He has proved that all pain at child birth may be entirely banished, and he will gladly tell you how it may be done absolutely free of charge. Send your name and address to J. H. Dye, 16 Lewis Block, Buffalo, N. Y., and he will send you, postpaid, his wonderful book which tells how to give birth to happy, healthy children, absolutely without pain; also how to cure sterility. Do not hesitate but write today.

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Mrs. Moore, of Springfield, Mo. says: "Your goitre treatment has been a revelation to me. I had taken treatment for a year prior to writing you and had gradually grown worse. I had about given up all hope of ever being cured. At that time I could not walk a block, and never went through the day without going to bed. Improved from the first day of the trial treatment, and have continued to gain until now when I am as well as I ever was." So sure am I that I can cure any case of goitre no matter how long standing that I will send a full two weeks' test treatment to any sufferer asking for it. Many have been cured by the test treatment alone. Why not make a trial of it yourself and learn what it will do for you? IT IS FREE. Address Dr. W. Thompson Bobo, 41 Minto Block, Battle Creek, Michigan.

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One in each town to ride and exhibit a sample bicycle. Write for special offer. Highest Grade 1904 Models \$8.75 to \$17. Complete Bicycles, Roadsters, Puncture Proof Tires and best equipment. 1902 & '03 Models \$7 to \$12. 500 Second-Hand Wheels \$3 to \$8. Good as new. Great factory clearing sale at half factory price. We ship on approval without a cent deposit and allow 10 DAYS FREE TRIAL on every bicycle. Any wheel not satisfactory returned at our expense. EARN A BICYCLE taking orders from a sample wheel furnished by us. Our agents make large profits. Write at once for catalogues and our special offer. AUTOMOBILES, sewing machines, fires, sundries, etc., half usual prices. MEAD CYCLE CO., Dept. 95-11, Chicago.

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Baby can be dressed in less than five minutes. These patterns include ellips for day and night, dresses with yoke, kimono, cloak and cap. Full directions for material, making and washing also free with each order. 22 cents post-paid. Catalogue free. Stockham Pub., Co., 70 Dearborn St., Room 37, Chicago.

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Have you ever stopped to consider what great value we are giving in Vick's at 25 cents a year? First there are the twelve beautiful covers, every one a work of art; they alone are worth the price of subscription; then by sending only 6 cents additional with your subscription you can get one of these pictures handsomely engraved suitable for framing. You get 384 large pages of choice reading matter during the year, something for every member of the family—all for only 25 cents. Surely no family should think of going without Vick's when it can be had at so low a price. If you are not on our list or if you have not sent your renewal, do so at once. You can do us a kindness by sending one or more new subscriptions with yours.

Allow me to congratulate you on the well-earned popularity of your magazine. It is one of the periodicals that we cannot strike from our list as we should actually feel lonesome without it.—E. E., Sumner, Iowa.

Our Prize Contest.

The counting of the lines in the picture of James Vick proved to be a very popular contest, a large number taking part in it. We are unable to determine the prize winners as yet as it is necessary to compare each estimate carefully with the correct figure which was obtained by counting carefully several times over, the lines on the large original drawing from which the illustration was made. We will write letters to those who won prizes so it will not be necessary to write to us should you not hear from us.

I did not know the January number of Vick's in its new 1904 dress, but I think it a beauty and such an improvement.—G. D., Paris, Tenn.

Our New Contest.

We announce on page twenty-three a new contest which is bound to prove more popular than the other and at the same time it is bound to prove far more educational as it will cause those who participate in it to look up their histories and refresh their memories. It is bound to impress the faces of these great men on the minds of the young in such a way as to last for years, and perhaps bring prominently to their minds those famous lines, which have been an inspiration to thousands.

Lives of great men all remind us,
We can make our lives sublime;
And departing leave behind us
Footprints on the sands of time."

I enclose my wife's subscription for your brilliant monthly. Typographically, as well as otherwise, your magazine is a gem.—J. W. P., Albany, N. Y.

Our March Cover.

Mr. Fisher carries us back to our childhood in this picture. The old farm house suggests many I have seen in the country. We have had an engraving made from this picture, without printing of any kind, on American Creme Mat Board suitable for framing. It is the same size and general style as those for January and February. We have these three different pictures ready for mailing and will send them postpaid at twenty-five cents each or three for fifty cents. If you order them when you subscribe for Vick's all you need to send is six cents to cover postage and packing on one or ten cents for two. Framed they are suitable for any room in the house.

We enjoy the many good things about flower gardens and things about the home that we find in your magazine but do not find in other papers.—S. E. T. Nunda, N. Y.

Agents Wanted.

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Vick's Family Magazine

Established 1878.

50c. Per Year.

The Leading Horticultural Journal of America.

JAMES VICK,
Founder and First Editor.

Published by VICK PUBLISHING COMPANY

FRANCIS C. OWEN, Pres. CHARLES E. GARDNER, Treas.

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Entered as second-class matter at the Danville, N. Y., Post Office

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FRUIT NOTES

By Prof. H. E. Van Deman

The Box for Apples.

At the recent meeting of the Western New York Horticultural Society, and at most of the similar meetings the past winter the matter of the bushel box in place of the apple barrel was discussed with much earnestness. Last fall there was such a scramble for barrels to pack the apples in, not only in New York but nearly everywhere that apples were at all plenty, that everyone who will need to buy them another year is thinking of trying the box. Some are already using it and for the most part are pleased with it.

One of the good points about boxes for apples is, that anyone who can drive a nail can make them. Barrels have to be made by coopers, or those who can easily learn how to make them, which is not easy. The box material can be bought from factories in the flat, all ready for nailing together, or the lumber can be got out to order by anyone who has timber and can take it to a saw mill, and the rest of the work can be done by hand. These boxes can be made at any time, winter or summer, when it is rainy or in cold and stormy weather, and stored for the busy season of apple packing. The cost is about the same per bushel as for barrels, and less when the prices run up to fifty cents and more per barrel as they did last fall.

Bushel boxes can be handled more easily, except in the matter of rolling, than barrels, especially those made with panel ends, having inch thick strips and one-fourth inch panel inside. This makes a good place to grip the boxes. They store closer than barrels. They also cool through quicker than barrels in cold storage, which is often a matter of much importance in the warm weather at picking time.

The average city customer would rather have a bushel than a barrel of apples sent to his home, for the family cannot always consume a whole barrel of apples before they will rot. If they will begin to call for bushel boxes instead of barrels, those in the trade will fall back on the farmer or the packer to supply the demand. It will take time to educate the public and the growers, but the box will finally take a very prominent place in the apple markets of the East, as they do universally now in the West.

Suggestions for March.

Whenever the weather is mild enough the grape vines should be pruned this month. Do not think that everything must be cut back to a bud or two, as some advise, but use the knife moderately and judiciously. Cut away the weak wood entirely but leave a foot or more of some of the strong canes. They will bear the best fruit. Every cluster, of grapes is now in the buds, although in embryo, and whatever fruit will be produced this year must come from them. Therefore, prune with this assurance in view, and do not cut too rashly nor too sparingly.

Tree pruning is also in order. Be moderate in your treatment of the orchard trees. Do not use the ax at all. Tree butchers do that. With a saw cut the large branches that really need to come off, but be sure they do. One's skill at pruning is not to be judged by the amount of brush he leaves behind him, as some are apt to think. A branch should clearly show that it is in the wrong place before taking it off. Then cut it close to the fork, yes, just at the fork, and not so as to leave a stump of any length. Such wounds will heal over with the least possible injury.

Small branches should be cut with a

knife. Many are apt to think that they should be trimmed off the large branches, leaving them bare for a considerable distance from the trunk. This is a mistake. Nature will kill out the most of those that are not needed. Do not understand me as meaning that here should be a tangle of water sprouts and brush, nor that the inner twigs should all be removed. They bear foliage that helps to feed the whole tree; for upon them depends the elaboration of the sap, making it a real source of nourishment.

Prepare for a new patch of strawberries for home use this spring. A new one should be set every year or at least once in two years. Have several varieties, from the earliest to the latest. Michel, Warfield, Haverland, Splendid, Aroma and Gandy about cover the season, and are all good kinds. The plan of having a variety is much better than depending only on one or two. Some may succeed better than others, and the succession from early to late is a great advantage.

The Grimes Apple.

We are just eating the last of our Grimes apples of the crop of 1903, and it is now Feb. 1, 1904. We have consumed three barrels since the first of October last, but as there were only three of us at home to eat them that is not bad—a barrel each in four months. To say they were good is stating it very moderately. Those who have never eaten a Grimes have yet to taste the best apple that grows, according to my own opinion and that of many others. There are some that come very near it but none that in all points so nearly meet the requirements.

Grimes is an apple that was originated by a man of that name in West Virginia and the original tree, although very old, is still living and bearing fruit. It began to be known outside of the immediate vicinity of its origin about the year 1860, and I first saw and tasted it in Ohio in 1867. Ever since that time I have never failed to eat the apples, plant the trees and recommend others to do the same whenever opportunity offered. The tree is of beautiful upright, symmetrical form, with dark colored twigs and healthy foliage. The only fault of the tree so far as I have known it, is a little unusual liability of the root to yield to woolly aphid and some of the bacterial diseases. It is not a really tender tree, however, and will withstand the climatic conditions of our main apple growing regions. It bears well; not so heavily as some, but that is in its favor. In all parts of the country where I have seen it growing, and that has been from Maine to California and from Washington to Georgia, the trees have borne abundantly and almost annually.

In size the fruit is medium; very nearly equal in diameter, with a deep basin in which the calyx is set; yellow as gold on the surface and sometimes slightly blushed; the flesh is firm yet mellow enough when fully ripe, crisp, juicy and of the richest, most satisfying subacid flavor.

The next best thing to having bearing

trees on the farm or village lot is to buy the apples of some one who has them; and I am sorry to say that there are few to be found in the markets. The commercial growers are learning the advantage of having apples to sell that bring such a high price as the Grimes does and are planting more trees. To those who can plant even one tree I say let it be a Grimes.

It is often said and generally believed that in orchard trees, the roots extend about as far in every direction as the branches. The fact is, they extend much further, and at ordinary distances the roots not only meet, but overlap, and consequently interfere. An illustration recently published in the California Cultivator shows a tree with its roots, furnished by the Arizona Experiment Station in which the roots extend three and a half times the distance of the branches. We are of opinion that this is not an exceptional case, though it may possibly exceed the average root spread of our orchard trees in the South. Then, again, the character of the soil and subsoil may affect the root growth, a porous soil inviting the roots downward, and hard pan checking the downward and stimulating lateral growth.—From Farm and Ranch.

It is with much regret that we learn of the death of Mr. R. M. Kellogg, the famous strawberry grower of Three Rivers, Mich. Probably no man in America has done so much to bring this favorite berry to perfection as Mr. Kellogg. We are glad to know that arrangements are to be made to have the good work, which he was doing, carried on.

Plum Plant—Great Novelty for Garden. Grows berry flavor. Fine for canning, preserving, pies, etc. Pkg. 15c stamps. J. H. Rockwell, Statesville, N. C.

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For this Corn Garden Drill 11 tools complete \$3.50 \$2-20 for Volvete 1e Garden Cultivator. We have complete line garden tools. Seed Drills etc.

Steel Cultivator, plain, with 5 shovels, spreads to 39 inches. \$7-15

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In The Garden

Conducted by John Elliott Morse.

Boisterous March.

"I ride on the wings of the blast,
I waken the torrent's roar;
For the fetters I've broken at last,
And the Frost King's reign is o'er.
And you may prize my cloudy skies,
And hail my boisterous reign
For gentle May I clear the way
I do not come in vain."

Pretty cold weather for green things to grow; but we have the promise of "summer time by and by;" so we do not give up hope but go on getting ready for the growing-time when it comes. It will be recalled by most old readers at least, that several months ago, the editor of *Vick's* offered a series of cash prizes for the best articles upon garden subjects, sent in by subscribers. A goodly number were received; and for this special Garden Number, the publication of some of the prize articles will no doubt be an interesting feature. Others will follow from time to time; and so we trust a still deeper interest in the garden work will be aroused.

J. E. M.

Nature's Developments in the Dark Room.

A New Departure in Hot Beds.

To the uninitiated, what a delightful atmosphere, borne of mystery, pervades the photographer's dark room! The click of the camera—the clinking of glasses and trays—mingled with the trickling of water—all tell of mysterious goings on, as the dim shadows slowly, but surely develop into life-like tracings of light and shadow upon the negative.

Briskly walking down the street one bright zero morning, intently speculating upon the hidden things of the den we had just left, we were suddenly roused from our dreaming by jostling against a gardener friend. Mingled with his cheery salutation was an invitation to visit his rhubarb cellar, or "Nature's dark room," as he styled it. It was only a long, low



"The first picking was ready for the Christmas market and brought fancy prices."

hut—constructed in the cheapest possible manner with no precautions whatever, except to turn the rain or leaching snow, and bar out frost and light, at the forcing time. Nature's negatives were simply clumps of rhubarb roots; plowed out from the snow-bound earth. They were set snugly together upon the earthen floor of the cave or den; and thus left to the tender mercies of the wintry elements until thoroughly frozen. The rafters were then covered with boards and straw; and the gardener's work was done.

Nature here carries on her own peculiar process of development, aided only by the warmth of the stove conveniently placed in the center of her dark room. The sun and rain, the heat of summer, together with the frost and snow of the early winter, in their own mysterious ways have stored up the chemicals in Nature's negatives for the beautiful tracings yet to come.

She is chary of telling us why the buds now begin to peer forth into the darkness—eagerly seeking the light but finding none; and in their disappointment, refuse to open out into the broad green leaf common to their native heath. Their disappointment however, is the gardener's good fortune. For, instead, is developed a stalk so crisp and tender, that seemingly, a

mere touch would shiver it like the frailest rose.

In place of the broad, palm-like leaf, there opens out just the suspicion of one, or sometimes, a delicate cone of brightest lemon hue. The beautiful cherry of the stalk gradually paling and blending into the brightly tinted leaf-tip or cone, makes a shading more beautiful than the brush of artist has ever traced.

The exquisite beauty and seeming frailty of the product would apparently preclude the possibility of shipment; or of its becoming an article of commerce. Such is not the fact, but instead, it is grown by tons, shipped in perfect safety; and meets a hearty welcome; finding ready sale upon the display stands of commission houses, hundreds of miles distant from the place of production.

In very recent years, the industry has assumed immense proportions; the producers of Dark Forced Rhubarb considering it the best paying crop of the season. Especially is this true, when we recall that all the labor of growing and marketing is performed in winter—the immense profits spanning with a golden bridge the wide chasm of inactivity between the harvest of autumn and the seed-sowing of the spring-time.

John Elliott Morse.

Success with Strawberries.

First Prize in Garden Contest.

The essentials of successful gardening or fruit growing are these: good, well-drained soil, good seeds and plants, and good culture. Neither fruits nor vegetables can do well if compelled to fight for existence along side of a growth of grass or weeds.

The most successful thing produced in our garden last year was our crop of strawberries, and of this we tell, not because we consider that the results were so very extraordinary, but just to give the reader an insight into the "possibilities in fruit growing." First we will give the results of the crop. From forty-one square rods of ground we harvested 144 cases (sixteen quart) and eleven quarts of strawberries, or at the rate of 282 bushels per acre. These we sold in the city of Petoskey and summer resort of Bay View. The sales were mostly in case lots to hotels and grocers. The highest price received was \$1.92 per case, the lowest \$1.60.

We sold \$243.38 worth, and estimating those used at home \$1.00 per case (this fruit was mostly over ripe and unfit for market,) the value of the crop amounted to \$249.38 or at the rate of \$892 per acre.

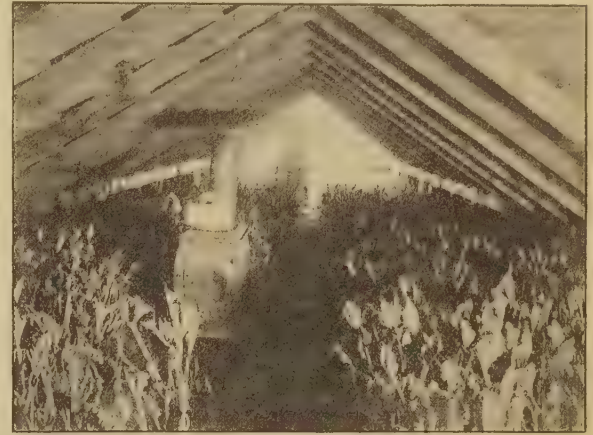
The expense of growing, harvesting, and selling the crop, estimating the work of my wife and self at thirty cents per hour, was \$113.60 which left a net of balance of \$135.78 or at the rate of about \$530 per acre.

While to those who are content to grow strawberries on the seventy-five or one hundred bushel per acre plan, these results may seem to be very great, to the progressive fruit grower, one who is keeping up with the times in matters pertaining to plant breeding, culture, etc. they will not appear large; because of the fact that double these results and more too are among the possibilities.

The adverse conditions which cut down the yield of last season were these: The fruiting bed was set with plants possessing only moderate vigor; the growing season was on the dry order for a part of the time; and the weevil did considerable damage, and the blooming period was very unfavorable for pollination because of much cold, and some wet weather. On one end of the bed, not much protected by a wind-break, more than two-thirds of the blossoms failed to set fruit. We have estimated that some of the best portions of the bed must have yielded at the rate of at least six hundred bushels per acre. The accompanying photo gives the reader something of an idea of how our new bed appeared October 8. We believe this bed is good for at least six hundred bushels per acre. Our success in growing strawberries is mainly because of the care and good tillage given and our system is about as follows.

After being sure that the soil of our plant bed is made as firm and fine as possible, we are equally sure to get the plants set at the proper depth, that is to say, the crown just coming on a level with the surface. We set with a spade being careful to firm the soil about the plant, and begin the cultivation of the

bed just as soon as the last plant is set. All fruit buds are removed as fast as they appear. This is to prevent strength from being taken from the plant by the secretion of pollen. All runners are clipped off until



"In place of the broad palm-like leaf, there opens out just the suspicion of one."

about July 1st. After this enough new plants are allowed to form to fill out the row, each plant being allowed one hundred square inches of root pasturage. This means that where the hedge row culture is given the plants may be allowed to set every fifteen inches, but in the restricted, narrow matted row, plants must be ten inches apart. These plants are placed where wanted, with a little earth or small stone to hold them in position. After this all runners are kept clipped, we going over the bed about once a week for that purpose. We neglected to say that our rows are three feet apart and plants set about thirty to thirty-six inches in the row. We cultivate about once a week, or often enough to prevent the formation of a crust. Under this practice weeds do not, of course, cut any figure because there are very few that ever see daylight.

Cultivation is continued as long as it is possible to work the soil, and then after freezing weather comes, a mulch of some material is applied, in order that the plants may be protected from the sunshine during the winter months. If a heavy covering is applied the material just above the plant should be loosened when the growing season comes in spring, perhaps some of it removed, and for this reason, those small crown leaves, if kept alive by winter protection, do, upon the return of the rain and warmer weather of spring take up the work where it was dropped the preceding fall. If prevented from performing their proper function, new leaves must first push out from the crown before the plant can go on with its work.

If this mulch is several inches deep between the rows, so much the better, for it will be very valuable in preserving moisture for the fruiting season, and besides this, it will make a soft carpet for the picker's knees and keep the berries nice and clean.

Selection in plant breeding we consider to be just



"We believe this bed is good for at least 600 bushels per acre."



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as important as selection in animal breeding. To work up a reputation for our fruit and get good prices for the same, we use neat packages, and put on the market only ripe, sound fruit. The points given, form the essentials of success in fruit growing, but of course there are many details about our method which we have not given for the reason that it would occupy too much space for a single article.
M. N. Edgerton.

A Wee Bit Garden and What Came From It.

The combination of love for "Green things a growing," an irresistible desire to dig, and limited space is not a happy one. The spirit of Progress had invaded our old-fashioned suburban neighborhood and the wide-spreading garden, with its wealth of hot beds had given place to boulevard and city lots, until the digging ground was reduced to a small area on the sunny side of the old barn.

All through blustering March the longing for green things grew, until we de-

was one and one-half bushels of beets and one bushel of onions. Lima beans, tomatoes, cucumbers, nasturtiums and garden peas were planted at the south side of the barn and trained upward against its weather-beaten boards. From these we gathered forty-four quarts of Lima beans, tomatoes and cucumbers for slicing during their season, a pint of seed peas of a choice variety, and nasturtiums galore.

The frosts of autumn cut short the glories of our summer garden; but still were we loath to forego the joys of digging. Casting about for some means of checkmating the Frost King we concluded to utilize the old hot bed and cold frame for forcing rhubarb.

Strong two year old roots were dug from the field and set in the empty frames. These were left uncovered until frozen, after which the boxes were covered with plank and banked high with manure (from the horse-stable) which had been forked over until well heated. The seeds sown the previous spring had their warm blanket beneath them, but these sturdy roots preferred the warm



RHUBARB GROWING IN DARK CORNER OF HOUSE CELLAR.

cided that we might, could, would and should work the unhappy combination. "How can you?" asked doubting Thomas. "Easy" replied the cheerful Digger. "I'll run my vine crops up the side of the barn, have a hot bed covered with glass to start the other thing in, and a cloth covered cold frame to finish them off." "Looks feasible," said Thomas. "I'll help make the frames, so as to share in the fame and glory that are sure to come from such a brilliant scheme." Tom likes to tease but he's pretty good to work, and soon the frames were ready for business.

Amid a blinding snowstorm on All-fool's day we sowed our seeds, with fingers stiffened with cold—strong in faith, that in due time we should reap if we froze not, in well doing.

Faith had her rewards. From the combined area of the two beds (144 sq. ft.) were produced thirty-two bunches of radishes ten and one-half bushels of lettuce eight hundred and sixty tomato plants and two hundred fifty cabbage plants.

Hot beds are unsightly things at best, so we planted two short rows of sweet peas as a screen; a trellis six feet high was provided, and long before the summer was past the vines had reached the top and were sighing for more netting to conquer. Thousands of the blooms were sold, and many given away besides those used in the home.

Onion and beet seed had been sown in one end of the hot bed, and as soon as weather permitted the young plants were transferred to open ground. The yield

blanket over them, and tucked snugly in, they grew in the darkness. The first picking was ready for the Christmas market and brought fancy prices; a second and third harvest was gathered, and the beds went out of business.

A dozen of the frozen roots had been set in a dark corner of the house cellar. Encouraged by the warmth of a small lamp and lantern, they grew; furnishing material for sauce and pies from January until the bluebird again called us to outdoor work and play.

The cash assets from our labor were—From summer hot beds \$22.59; Winter hot beds \$39.85; Sweet Peas \$7.50; Barn garden and nooks and corners \$8.84—A total of \$78.18.

Other assets there were too besides this handful of flowers—the heap of vegetables—and a few paltry dollars. Anxieties and perplexities dropped away. Tired hearts and brains grew rested. Faith became brighter and Hope stronger as we dugged in our "Wee Bit Garden."

Eva Alice Morse.

An Easy Way to Grow Celery.

(Third Prize Article in Garden Contest.)

Sow your seed early in a window box; transplant seedlings into hotbed, after all other plants have been taken out of it. The leaves of the celery should be cut back two or three times while growing in window box so the plants will be sturdy.

Make the trenches six inches apart in hot bed and set the celery plants six inches apart in trenches. As you do so cut back the top and the point of tap root. Shade until rooted; water freely, and your celery will grow so vigorously that it will not rust. If your frame is high, all the better as you can cover it with glass to escape early fall frosts, and leave your celery out till November. The only secret is to get a strong rapid growth. The writer, after three years experience is satisfied that this is the easiest way to grow good celery.

A good way to store your crop in the



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cellar is to get a large box or boxes, cover the bottom with garden soil to the depth of four or five inches. Let all the earth that will, stick to the roots. Put plants in the boxes as if transplanting, put a little earth about the roots. Water occasionally, taking care not to wet the plants, just the soil.

Rev. G. H. A. Murray.

Irish Potatoes.

Early in the spring a plot of ground was laid off about four rods long by three wide, making between one-twelfth and one-thirteenth of an acre. The ground was first cleaned of everything that might impede the cultivation or produce any noxious plant life. The nature of the soil was sandy and warm, but there appeared to be enough humus to form a substantial basis for the intended crop. After a deep, thorough ploughing, a one-horse wooden drag was run over the surface till it was mellow as it could possibly be made. Stable manure was then strewn broadcast, and the ground laid off in rows far enough apart to admit of horse cultivation. About twenty pounds of commercial fertilizer was drilled in the rows and the shovel plow run through to mix it with the soil. Twenty pounds of Early Rose potatoes, northern grown seed, were cut with one eye to each piece and dropped fourteen inches apart. The soil was thrown in from both sides of the furrow, covering them to a depth of about six inches. This was on the 20th of February. The 27th of March the wooden drag was run over the surface, taking off the tops of the ridges where signs of grass and weeds were beginning to show, and exposing a few of the sprouts of potatoes. By April 5th they were nicely through the ground. In about a week they were worked with one ploughing. The bugs beginning to appear about this time, the plants were lightly dusted with a mixture of shorts (fine middlings) and paris green. As they grew larger the application was made heavier and no harm resulted to the plants, but the bugs were killed out as fast as they came. Two other plowings followed, and on June 4th the potatoes were dug. The yield was sixteen bushels, about two hundred bushels to the acre.

L. C. Rightsell.

Gardening.

Every woman should have and cultivate a garden, no matter if it be but a paltry affair a foot or two in dimensions. Something to take her out of doors in the sunshine and fresh air, and interest her in nature and the growing and expanding world about her, is exactly what the average busy, overworked housewife needs, above everything else.

Cultivate a garden, this year; raise a few flowers, or plants, or vegetables of your own, and tend and care for and watch over them yourself. If at the end of the season you find that the experiment has not pleased and benefited you, then the writer is woefully mistaken.

There is a certain pleasure and satisfaction to be derived from a garden, not to be had in any other way. It brings back old memories of childhood and youth to be interested in flowers, recollections of days when the world, and life, was new and fresh with one, and full of wonders and delights. It renews one's hearts and spirits to be digging in the earth, and cares and worries fade away in the presence of the unfolding leaf and flower.

All that nature asks is a chance to get her despairing children back into her wholesome society once more, and she will vouch for the rest. A garden is the best health restorer that has yet been invented. It is a real and reliable cure all, far surpassing in effectiveness the thousand and one nostrums so commonly recommended. A garden is a good investment. It will pay large and regular dividends in health and pleasure, genu-

ine coin, than which there is none better to lay up against one's old age. Gardening, is profitable, however looked upon.

I have in mind the case of a young woman who was given over by her physicians to the life of a confined invalid. She had come to consider herself incapable of taking any active part in life, and her time was spent almost entirely in the sick chamber. But someone succeeded in interesting her in flowers, and their cultivation. She began with a few pansies in a sunny window, but as her interest in them increased, a hot bed outside was substituted. This in turn gave place to a greenhouse, which was enlarged again and again.

The final result was that with something to interest and stimulate the mind, the former malady was forgotten and to a measure outgrown. Old things have passed away with this invalid; all things have become new. She takes a new and enlarged view of life, and is cheerful and happy. Not a day passes that does not find her busy in her greenhouse, and, not to be despised, the income which she yearly receives from the product of her toil, is considerable, and constantly increasing. Poets, writers and thinkers have found encouragement and inspiration in a garden; many a busy mind relief from the toil of the day, and many an invalid a new lease of life. A garden has a real virtue and worth. Make the most of it.

R. B. Buckham.

Two Pictures.

An old farmhouse with meadows wide,
And sweet with clover on each side;
A bright-eyed boy, who looks from out
The door with woodbine wreathed about,
And wishes his one thought all day:
"Oh! if I could but fly away
From this dull spot the world to see,
How happy, happy, happy,
How happy I should be."

Amid the city's constant din,
A man who round the world has been,
Who, 'mid the tumult and the throng,
Is thinking, thinking all day long:
"Oh! could I only tread once more
The field path to the farmhouse door,
The old green meadow could I see,
How happy, happy, happy,
How happy I should be."

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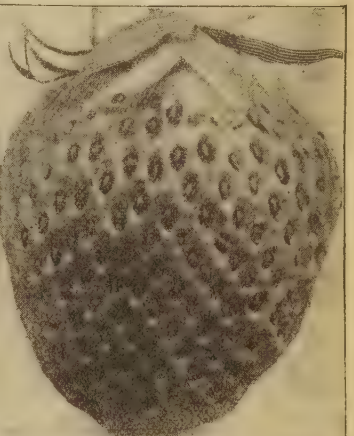
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Poultry Department

Conducted by Vincent M. Couch

Those who have suggestions to make or questions to ask are invited to write direct to Mr. Couch at his home, Larkfield, N. Y. Enclose a stamp if you desire a reply.—Ed.

March Items.

We are likely to have some quite cold days this month, and if you expect to keep the hens laying regularly you must see that they are not exposed on the blustering days and subjected to sudden changes of temperature. Don't allow them to go outside and fly into a snow bank and sit there for an hour, as they sometimes do. Don't give them cold or frozen food or ice water, it will surely check the egg yield. I am not a believer in being too free with washes during the hatching season, two or three feeds of this kind each week is a great plenty. Give plenty of good hard grain and be sure that the hens have plenty of exercise in getting it; the exercise will do them as much good as the food. Cut some mangels or beets in halves and place them on a large nail driven in at some convenient place; the hens will pick the inside out very clean. Such food helps to make up a variety and keeps the hens busy.

Remember that comfort, not show nor style, is what counts with hens. If your customers are calling on you for more fresh eggs and you feel the need of keeping more hens, but lack the house room for them, you can build a house very cheaply, one that will answer your purpose equally as well as one costing hundreds of dollars; fifteen to twenty-five dollars will add on quite a little shelter, the principal thing is to have it warm and dry. Do not think that you can make a fortune with a few hens, but if you are a resident of a village or the outskirts of a city and are so situated that you can keep a few hens, you will find that they will add several dollars to your income during the year, and besides this you have the satisfaction of knowing that you can eat strictly fresh eggs and good wholesome meat. We are told that it is a difficult matter to tell the difference between a storage egg and one that is fresh laid; this depends much on the condition of the egg when it was put away. Any one who has had experience in handling store eggs knows very well that there are a great many eggs put in storage that are far from being fresh, then after they have laid away six or eight months and brought on the market what can they be; we can't think that they are any comparison for a fresh laid egg right from your own henery. And then how about the poultry that is placed on the market in our own large cities, fattened on we know not what, nor about the health or condition of the fowls, then after being transported two or three thousand miles in crowded cars and boxes, sick and half dead on arrival, what can you expect? Not very wholesome food. The best way to get around this is to keep a few hens yourself. If you are not able to get such poultry as you would like, get the best you can and improve on these. The scraps alone, from the table of a medium sized family will make half the feed for six or eight hens, and its the very best kind of food. One year's experience keeping fowls should be enough to convince anyone of the many advantages and conveniences derived from them. They are not only a source of profit but of pleasure as well. And anyone who takes an interest in poultry will not be satisfied with scrub stock very long. They will quickly see the many advantages of pure bred fowls, over the common or mongrel stock, and will secure them even at a cost of several dollars per head. There is, I believe, not a single variety of fowls but what can be made profitable to a less or greater extent, if properly handled. There are varieties which we speak of as practical breeds, some of these being more desirable for certain purposes. Some people insist on having us believe that this or that breed is the only one that amounts to anything, but such advice is

misleading. It's the man, not the breed that makes success.

My Way of Setting a Hen.

There is a right and a wrong way to set a hen, and I find that a great many are about as apt to set them wrong as right. We are too apt sometimes to place the eggs under the hen before she has really settled down to business. As a rule most all hens of the American class, after they have sat two or three days can be moved to a more desirable place. I prefer to let them sit about three days on a half dozen nest eggs before moving them, in this way there is a tendency to make them more earnest in the work. Some poultry raisers set any hen and every hen that can be made to sit. There are many hens in every flock that are vicious and wild and unfit to sit and more so to bring up a brood of chicks. But if you do find it necessary to set one of these hens, one that is ready for a fight every time you go near her, I would see that the nest is in an out of the way place, where she will be disturbed as little as possible, and after she comes off with the chicks she had better be put out by herself or she may do injury to other flocks.

Where poultry is raised only on a moderate scale I am very much in favor of the old hen to do both hatching and brooding, but it pays to give careful attention to the selection of the hen which is to do this work, the same as it does in choosing incubators and brooders. The hens to pick out for this purpose are the medium sized ones, quiet and kind, and those that can be handled without fighting back savagely, and can be taken off and fed and watered, and will then return quickly to the nest. But how are we to tell what kind of hens to select in order to have the desired kind? Well, if we are to take them from a flock of yearlings the only way is to choose those that by observation we think most suitable; by watching the layers closely and handling them when on the nest you can tell very nearly about the disposition of a hen, and whether she will be a good sitter or not. After the hen is selected and you are satisfied that she is in earnest, the next thing is a nest. In the selection of a place for this, perhaps the most important thing to consider is the comfort of the hen, which must be in a sheltered location, where she will not be exposed to extreme heat or cold, reasonably damp, yet not wet. In making the nest I prefer a box about ten inches deep, if of greater depth and the eggs are placed down in it, the hen is liable to break more or less in getting off and on the nest, while if the eggs are near the top some of the chicks which hatch out first are likely to tumble out of the nest on the floor before the hatch is finished, thereby getting chilled or calling the hen off the nest at the cost of the lives of those remaining in the nest. In warm weather I use a frame of a shallow box, or piece of box with the bottom out, set on the ground, and a little dirt scraped up around the outside so as to make the

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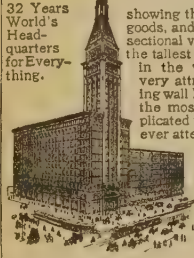
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chicks? With a dozen chicks there should be a pen four by eight feet, fence two feet high and covered over with netting.

Buying Incubator Chicks.—What is your opinion about buying small incubator chicks? I would not advise this plan. My experience is that when taken from the hatches and moved very far they most always get a setback. Better do the hatching as well as the brooding yourself.

Starting In.—I am thinking of taking up poultry keeping. Is it best to begin by purchasing stock, or eggs and hatch and grow stock for breeders? If you have ample capital and wish to get started at once I would buy stock by all means, but if you want to make cost as low as possible and are in no hurry then start with eggs. There are more uncertainties in this way.

The Experience of a Reader.

As you have invited beginners and blunderers as well as experienced poultry raisers to write you, I will tell you about some of my birds.

One chicken had a bill that did not close properly, but the parts crossed each other. Generally I kill at once any chick with a deformity, but that was a pullet and I was in a hurry to get laying fowls so I kept her until she was nearly full grown. It was difficult for her to pick up hard food. Each of the others would eat a handful of grain while she swallowed six kernels. I gave her bread or some other soft food whenever she came to the kitchen door and she grew fast and became very tame. After a while I found that she was deserted by the others and when she followed them they fought her away, and there was a good reason for their conduct.

I am ashamed when I think how long it was before I fully realized the extent of her affliction or the danger to the flock of having such a fowl in their midst. Although she dusted herself very often that could not overcome the disadvantage of her not being able to oil and plume her feathers. She was very lousy and the under feathers were all sticky. I killed her as soon as I found out her condition. "Do not keep a deformed chicken" is my advice.

I had a sickly one and saved it. When I first observed anything wrong with it there was a red swelling at its vent and white matter running from it. The other chicks and even the mother hen pecked the lump till it bled and little shreds of skin hung loose. I did not want to kill the little creature, it was lively and had a good appetite. I washed the lump with lukewarm borax water every morning, and every night when I was away from home through the day. When I was home all day I washed it oftener, three or four times in the day. I cut away the loose shreds of skin. After a few days the redness disappeared, the other birds ceased pecking it and the swelling became less and less. The chick did not seem to grow any larger for two or three weeks. Then it grew as though to make up for lost time and I was unable to distinguish it from the others.

I have a hen that has earned four dollars and forty cents in a year, not a fancy fowl, just a common hen. One time when she was sitting a mouse was so bold as to go near her nest and disturb her. She got off, chased the mouse, caught it, and flung it around with her bill beating it against the floor until it was nearly dead, when I finished the job and she returned to her nest.

I feed little chicks with canary seed, millet, coarse oat meal, bread crumbs, and finely ground corn, (no soft mash) and lose few. Dry feed in variety I think is best.

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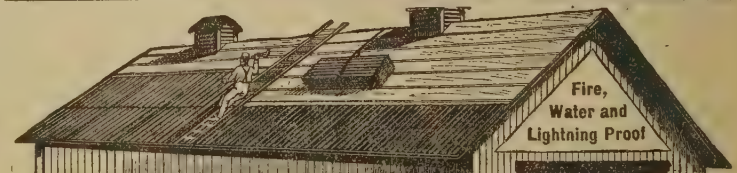
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The Onion

And It's Sisters, Cousins and Aunts.

In the heart of the woods under crowding maples, elms, and butternuts whose thick shade was a tangle of wild undergrowth, I came upon it, such a queer, bright green little stalk with the tiniest bulb at its top just peeping into view by a staff of nodding wild red lilies. The lilies claimed my greedy hands first, and then I drew the bulbous stranger from its moist bed. The odor that accompanied its uprooting immediately transported me to a suburban trolley car returning to town at evening, filled with Italian workmen with their lunch pails. Garlic strong, unadulterated, and unmistakable. I had never seen it before, but having had my nostrils saturated with its pungent odor in the cars, I recognized it at once in its wild state, and can readily see why the ancients gave to its ancestors the name of Allium, from a Greek word meaning "to avoid."

The Allium is a large family with many relatives domiciled the world over from the remote East to the distant West, from Cape of Good Hope on the south, to Siberia on the north, each member bearing the unmistakable odor in a degree more or less intense, with perhaps one exception, for there is a variety called Allium odorum, sweet smelling, which is chiefly a native of Japan.

It seems a far cry from our tiny wild garlic with its ardent, obtrusive perfume, to the huge Spanish onion of commerce in which the odor is almost absent, but farther still to the lovely lilies of our gardens with their exquisite aroma, though the Allium is a branch of the great lily kindred.

It is said that there was a most delectable bulb in China which so affected the breath that the person eating it had to withdraw from society for days. An ancient Emperor was so fond of this bulb that at intervals he retired to solitude to indulge his appetite, but as it was very rare and difficult of growth he had a corner on the market and seldom gave his subjects a chance to enjoy its delights. Perhaps the relatives of said subjects were duly grateful therefore. History does not state that this rare bulb was an unusually redolent member of the Allium tribe, but it is at least presumable.

In Switzerland the common leek, which is also related to the onion, flowers in April and May, bearing delicate purple blooms, and in Denmark there is a species of which the flower is blue.

In the mountainous parts of England it bears a dull brownish bloom, while the rose Allium is found in the vineyards and olive groves of sunny Italy. It is said that a Duchess of Portland introduced an inodorous Allium into England in 1776, which was a native of Carolina. One variety flowers in January in the warm climate of Spain, and in Siberia the field mice subsist on a wild kind which they gather and store for their winter food.

Cows sometimes have a fondness for this pungent bulb with the result that the maternal milk purveyor meets with anathemas from the outraged housewives who detect its disagreeable presence in the milk. However the fault isn't in the garlic or leek or the onion but in the cow, which should be discriminating enough to retire from her official position like the aforesaid Emperor of China, when bent on an onion spree.

Really it is not the onion in itself that is offensive. No one objects to the odor as it comes fresh from the clean, satiny bulb, but it is having to take our onion second hand that offends, and if all lovers of this bulb, and I am one, would only remember that a bite of parsley is a simple remover of the odor on the breath, they might enjoy the onions, and be enjoyed by their friends at the same time, while the parsley is also said to assist in digestion. The Egyptians have known and used varieties of the onion since the earliest days. One kind in constant use is soft and sweet, and is cooked in soup, and also roasted with meat to make a dish which the Turks call "kebah," and of which the people of the East are exceedingly fond.

The pungency of the onion family makes it necessarily somewhat medicinal in its actions, and it was valued for these qualities in early days. It is said that the garlic is so strong that when applied to the bare feet it can be tasted in the mouth, and poultices of this bulb were used among our forebears, mixed with honey, caraway and fennel, for asthma and pulmonary affections, while many a Mayflower boy went to bed at night with his earache eased by an application of the roasted bulb. Some old authorities assert that if rubbed on the bald head it will promote the growth of hair, which recipe I give for the benefit of the front row at the Vaudeville.

The different members of the Allium family vary in the shape of leaf from those broad and flat like the tulip to the tapering, rush-like onion with which we are familiar. The "clove of garlic" spoken of in cook books is one of the little side bulbs of the garlic, much prized by epicures in warm climates.

The baby of the Allium family is the Chives, which one can sometimes get in market. It is the smallest of all onions and

grows no bulbs, or at least nothing larger than a pea. The short, delicate awl-shaped leaves are cut off near the ground for salad, new leaves forming to replace those severed, thus making a continuous growth. Mixed with lettuce or used as a flavor for potato or vegetable salad it is delicious.

The methods of preparing the onion for the table are too well known to warrant repetition, but there is one combination which has been a source of joy to me as a variety in salad since the day I heard of it, and that is onion sliced with tart apple, and dressed with mayonnaise or any cooked dressing. I know it sounds like the wildest profanity but if you like onions, try it, and by the way, always peel onions under water as you value your peace of body. It keeps the fumes from the eyes.

Janet Hay.

A FORTUNE IN EGGS.

I get so many letters from my old home about preserving eggs, that I will answer them through your paper. I started in 1888 with \$38, bought eggs at 8 to 10 cents in summer, preserved them and sold in winter at from 25 to 31 cents a dozen. I preserved eggs 12 years and made \$30,000. My niece started in 1894, with \$10, which she reinvested each year, with the profits and now she has \$16,346, all made from \$10, reinvested for eight years. You can buy eggs from 8 to 10 cents and sell them from 25 to 30; figure the profits yourself. To preserve them costs a cent a dozen. I can't answer letters as I travel, but any person can get desired information by addressing the PEOPLES' SUPPLY CO., No. 71 Moore Block, New Concord, Ohio, enclosing a 3-cent stamp; they started me. This is a good business for city or country.

O. GREEN.

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Growing Pains.

(Written for Vick's Family Magazine.)

The title of this article is a good example of the harm that may lurk in a name. Many a man is now crippled or deformed who might have been spared the affliction had his parents heeded his childish sufferings, instead of dismissing them carelessly, as nothing but "growing pains." There is no such thing as a pain due to the simple action of growth. Any pain, no matter what, from which a child or an adult suffers, is a sign of something wrong.

It is true that the wrong may be very slight, such as fatigue following a day of too much exercise, or the bruise following an unnoticed bump, or a slight cold, accompanied by a little fever and aching muscles. But pains of this kind in children, the negligible pains, are only occasional, and can usually, by putting two and two together, be referred to their true cause. They are not growing pains, but are pains not unusual or unnatural for a growing child, who plays and romps in a healthy, normal manner.

The evil of the false security created by this name for a condition that does not exist, is, however, manifested when the pains recur repeatedly, or are constant. Since growth is constant, the parent reasons with seeming logic that the pain should also be constant; and so the repeated complaints of the little sufferer are dismissed without a suspicion of the miserable future they foretell. Then when their persistency and evident intensity at last arouse a fear that growth is not alone responsible for them, the hip-disease, or the inflamed knee, or the disease of the spine has gone too far for the best of physicians to prevent deformity, even if he succeeds in saving the life of the sufferer.

The pain resulting from any of these diseases is apt to be felt only at night at first, when the child is in bed and asleep. It then comes—probably in consequence of an irregular contraction of some muscle, causing an unusual movement—a sudden sharp stab, and the sufferer wakes with a scream. As he wakes, the muscles regain their tone and put the joint into the position where the diseased part is relieved from pressure, and the pain ceases. The mother or the nurse breathes a sleepy wish that the little one didn't have so many growing pains, and the mischief goes on inside the unhappy victim of a popular error.

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In our February issue we published a picture of Mr. Charles A. Green, editor of Green's Fruit Grower and proprietor of Green's Nursery Co. Mr. Green has just mailed us a copy of his latest catalogue and states that any of our readers who will drop him a card will receive one free of charge by return mail.

Sweet Trees.

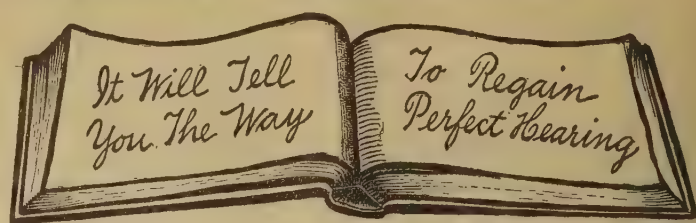
Probably you think me mean sugar maples; well we have them too, but we refer particularly to the trees grown by The Geo. A. Sweet Nursery Co., 26 Maple St. Dansville, N. Y. This Company has a reputation, extending over many years, for furnishing the finest grade of northern grown trees at popular prices. Their 1904 catalogue will be mailed free to those who ask for it.

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He wrote this work as a labor of love to point out the way to a cure for all who are deaf. From cover to cover it is full of the most valuable medical information. It shows how the inner tubes of the ear become blocked up; it explains the strange and terrible ringing, buzzing noises in the ear; it is illustrated by the finest of drawings made by the best artists; it points out with truthful and positive hand, the way to restored hearing.

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Do not delay! The demand for the book has been so tremendous that its author, Dr. Sproule, the distinguished specialist, has just gotten out a second edition, that all who desire may have a copy. Whoever is troubled with deafness in even the slightest degree, is gladly and freely welcome to this book. Thousands who have received it bless the kindly hand that wrote it, and that distributes it without a thought of payment. It was the means of restoring their hearing. Let it restore yours.

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WORK for everybody, to sell the Davis Pat. Fruit Jar Grip at 10 cents. Women make \$10.00 a week. Boys sell a box after school. **JENKINS BUCK & CO., Mine Hill, N. J.**

DOLL AND FURNITURE 10 CENTS

The Doll is a little Beauty 9 in. tall with three Dresses and a hat to match each Dress. The furniture consists of a Bed room and a Parlor Set complete. For 5c. extra we will send a Dining-room and a Kitchen set which will be enough to furnish the entire Doll's house. Mothers will find that the preparing and arranging these novelties will keep the little ones busy for hours at a time. Remember that for 10 cents we will send the Doll and 2 sets Furniture and for 15 cents the Doll and 4 sets Furniture.

HONA-FIDE NOVELTY CO., Dept. A, Box 769, New Haven, Conn.

\$100 for \$2?

GOLD DOLLARS FOR PENNIES Fortunes are rapidly being made in Colorado's gold mines, the biggest and richest veins on earth. Poor prospectors suddenly become rich as a result of lucky "finds" at Cripple Creek, taking out thousands of dollars daily.

Your Chance As official brokers we now have for sale full paid and non-assessable shares (\$1.00 each face value) in a new Cripple Creek company for only 25c each. 100 shares (\$100 face value) for \$25.00 shares for \$10 or \$20 per thousand shares. Order at once before prices advance. We have other first-class investments in gold stocks. Full printed matter free.

COLORADO INVESTMENT CO., Official Brokers 803 Jackson Building, Denver, Colo.

Telegraphy Easy Tuition. Positions secured. Free Catalogue. **T. C. Telegraphy School, Dept. 4, Ulrichville, O.**

"PIMPLES," Rough skins. New discovery Texas mineral. Send 35 cts. for box face bleach. **MFG. CO., Box 715, Houston, Texas.**



WHO ARE THEY? YOU CAN WIN A VALUABLE PRIZE IF YOU CAN TELL.

This is the second in our great series of Educational Contests. Young and old alike should take an interest in it. It will stamp the faces of these great men indelibly on the mind. The 25 pictures printed above are those of

EMINENT AMERICAN STATESMEN

who have received the highest honors in the power of the American people to give.

Can You Tell Who They Are?

You Can Win If You Can Tell.

CASH PRIZES

| | |
|--------------|---------|
| FIRST PRIZE | \$50.00 |
| SECOND PRIZE | 20.00 |
| THIRD PRIZE | 10.00 |
| FOURTH PRIZE | \$ 5.00 |

Conditions Send us 25c for a yearly subscription to VICK'S FAMILY MAGAZINE and on a separate sheet give the names and numbers of as many of the men whose pictures appear above as possible. Write your name and address plainly on the sheet. If you desire more than one trial we will give you one chance for every additional subscription you obtain. Send in your subscription at once, you may win one of the big prizes. The one getting all of the names correct will win the first prize, the one getting the next nearest correct list, will win the second prize and so on until the four prizes have been awarded. In case of a tie on any of the prizes they will be divided equally between those tying.

Special Weekly Contest

the one giving the most correct names.

If you can name three or more of the men correctly you will be registered in a **Special Weekly Contest** in which a valuable prize will be given each week to the one giving the most correct names. If you win a weekly prize you will still be entitled to participate in the main contest.

Send your subscription at once, you may be the one to win the next weekly prize. ADDRESS

VICK PUBLISHING CO.,

ROCHESTER, N. Y.

Built for Bumps

Write for free 80-p. Trunk Cat.



\$5.95
The Gibraltar Trunk, built in strongest possible way: 15 braces on each end and 22 on sides. Count them yourself. Write at once for our special catalogue of trunks and valises and read about the many attractive trunks we sell. Prices all rock bottom. Our trunk catalogue will interest you. Write today.

Montgomery Ward & Co.,
Michigan Ave., Madison and Washington Sts.,
Chicago.

THE PRICILLA Skirt & Waist Holder. Surpasses all others. No trouble, neat. One package containing bars for 3 Waists & hooks for 2 Skirts for 25c. General Supply Co., (V) 144, E. 24 St. Minneapolis Minn.

40 NEEDLES 10c

Consisting of 15 Darning, a Complete set and 25 Gold Tipped Nickle Steel Sewing Needles all in elegant case. 10c stamps or silver. **D. L. CARRIER, 421 S. Second St. Rockford Ill.**



V. B. Foote Foundry Co., Fredericktown, O. Works—We have used the "Mend-a-Rip" outfit and find it as represented. This advertiser is reliable. [Ed.]

The Sip Floating Bottle Holder Fire Extinguisher.

A Household Necessity.

Be prepared for exploding oil lamps, stoves, lace curtains, Dresses on fire etc. Better in the home, than a Fire Engine a mile away.

Sip Fire Appliance Co., Dover, N. J. Price \$3.00. Agents wanted.

NEVER CUT A CORN

It is dangerous. Our plaster will give safe and instant relief. Mailed direct. Five for a dime, fifteen for a quarter. Not sold by dealers. **Simplex Corn Cure, 1034 Walnut Street, Philadelphia.**

SAFETY PARING KNIFE.

Saves time, fruit and vegetables. Special price 10c postpaid. Catalogue free. **HOME SUPPLY CO., 634 Seymour Street, Syracuse, New York.**

A March Song.

The crocus holds her golden heart
Close folded from the storm,
The robin finds in hemlock wood
A place to keep him warm.

Hepatica, her furry hood
Wears till the cold be past;
She will not lift her tender face
To meet this wintry blast.

But snowdrop, when the March wind calls,
Comes swiftly to his hail,
And lets him with his icy dart
Pin on her bridal veil.

Cora A. Matson Dolson.

THE NEW CRIMSON RAMBLER "PHILADELPHIA."

A new aspirant for popular favor is the "Philadelphia," (see illustration on page two) an improvement on the Crimson Rambler in that the color of the blossoms is brighter, and the flowers larger and more double. The introducers, Conard and Jones, of West Grove, Pa., claim that it is the most magnificent, hardy, climbing crimson rose in existence, bearing "bushels of roses" on every plant, even when receiving no particular attention in the way of fertilization and cultivation. The foliage is handsome and does not mildew, and the brilliant color of the blossoms is retained until the last. It is perfectly hardy and a rapid grower.

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Fitting glasses for us. Big profits. Our 24-page **FREE EYE BOOK** tells how. Write for it today. **JACKSONIAN OPTICAL COLLEGE, D. p. 361 Jackson, Mich.**

PATENTS 48-page book **FREE** highest references. **FITZGERALD & CO., Dept. F, Washington, D. C.**

WE PAY \$32 A WEEK 40 men with right to introduce poultry compound. Year's contract. **IMPERIAL MFG. CO., DEPT. 80 PARSONS, KANS.**

FITS —EPILEPSY. A sure remedy discovered. Cases of 25 years' standing **CURED.** Treatment only \$2 per month. Trial package free. **Look 144, CHICAGO, ILL.**

This Ring Free

Send us your name and address if you want this Ring. **HANDY BLUE CO., Dept. VF, 1269 B'way, New York.**



GRAND FREE OFFER.

In order to introduce our meritorious Laxative Dyspepsia Tablets to the public, we will give absolutely free a handsome **SOLID GOLD** plated watch, stem wind and stem set, equal in appearance to a \$35 watch warranted 25 years. Send us your name and address, (no money) we send you 8 boxes of Dr. Leo's Laxative Dyspepsia Tablets you sell them for \$20 a box, return us the \$2.00 received and we will send you this handsome watch.

Send your name and address at once and we will mail you the tablets. Also instructions how you can share in the distribution of \$500.00 in gold.

This is the greatest offer ever made a handsome gold watch and a chance to share in the distribution of \$500 which we are giving away absolutely free. Address **Dr. Leo Tablet Co., Bridgeport, Conn.**



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to cure corns with out pain and not injure the foot in any way. Your money back if not pleased with its results. When we say this we mean it; we will actually refund your money if SNIDER'S CORN CURE does not give perfect satisfaction. It is not a plaster, salve or sack and cannot be rubbed off accidentally. Handiest and best remedy on earth. Don't stand the worry and aches of those corns any longer, but send us 25 cents and we will send you a bottle by return mail. **GOOD AGENTS WANTED EVERYWHERE.** Address **SNIDER & CO., Dept. 2, Springfield, O.**

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\$5 BE A MANUFACTURER \$5
SEND 10 CENTS; for a copy of large book containing a collection of over 350 Money Making Recipes for the manufacture of various articles of every day wants. Your money returned if it fails to please you. Book Catalogue free. **F. C. LAMBIOTTE, Box B-894, Hartford City, Ind.**

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Can you do plain sewing, hand or machine? Let me tell you how I make lots of money. Sample, directions, three plans for selling, 25 c. No canvassing. Your money back if not satisfied. **ELEANOR J. DUDHEM, Box 553, Jackson, Mich.**

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BOY & GIRL agents wanted. Send stamp for particulars. **NOVELTY CO., Bancroft, Mich.**

SORKURE cures and relieves instantly, burns, scalds, cuts, wounds, ulcers, old sores, running sores, open wounds, etc. A whole hospital in itself. Sample box 10c to pay postage and packing. **KINGMAN CO., 45 LaSalle Street, Dept. A-2, Chicago, Ill.**

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Mrs. Jones Says nothing so handy as the Royal Cream Whip, cake mixer, and egg beater; creams potatoes like snowflakes; send 15c and get it by return mail. **ROYALTY MFG. CO., Union Trust Bldg., Cincinnati, O.**

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Copies of our handsome illustrated story magazine, Send us five names and for your trouble we will send you our beautiful magazine a whole year free providing you include ten cents in your letter to pay for shipping and handling. We are pleased with our magazine; it is full of good stories and is as breezy, up-to-date departments of interest to the whole family. Don't miss this chance to get it free. Tell all your friends. This is a special offer for 30 days to introduce the magazine to new readers. Address PUSH MAGAZINE 516 Jackson St. Topeka, Kan.

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To arouse interest in, and to advertise the GREAT ST. LOUIS WORLD'S FAIR, this enormous sum will be distributed. Full information will be sent you ABSOLUTELY FREE. Just send your name and address on a postal card and we will send you full particulars.

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SEND FOR FREE LIST OF RECORDS & TALKING MACHINES.



has never been given free for selling \$3.50 worth of goods as some want you to believe, but if you send us your name and address, we will send you post-paid, and Trust you with \$6.00 of the latest selling articles ever made; easily sold in half an hour at 10c, each. When sold send the money \$3.50, and we will send you a guaranteed A. Q. Columbia Graphophone with three-song record. In case you are not pleased with the Graphophone, send it back to us and we will refund \$3.50 on the purchase of any machine you may select from our catalogue. We will forfeit \$1,000 to any one proving any trick or catch about this offer, or that we give a toy machine or one that must be turned by hand. Our machine is a key winding, self-playing Columbia Graphophone, and with three-song record, is the greatest premium ever offered. Send for free list of records and graphophones. Send your reply to us at once and be treated fairly. A trial costs nothing. Address plainly, W. S. SIMPSON, Dept. 19, New York.

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OUR PLAN for starting beginners in profitable Mail Order business is remarkably successful. Some we started three months ago now receive 100 letters daily and are making big money. Our new catalogue, just published, is the best out. Complete plan for stamp.

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Is always ready. Use anywhere. No danger. Safest known. PRICE Postpaid \$1.00.

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Bangle Ring. Smallest Ever Colored. Or any Initial engraved Free. Rolled Gold. Warranted 3 years. Price, \$5.95 and exp. charges. Jeweled Elgin or Waltham name price 12 preferred. FREE, rolled gold, 50 in. Lorgnette chain for ladies, or vest chain for gents, guaranteed 5 yrs. Give both \$10.00 and exp. office a state plainly whether ladies or gents' size. Offer can't be continued long. Write today.

ALLEN & CO., Wholesale Jewellers, Dept. 12, 407 to 521 Dearborn Street, CHICAGO, ILL.

\$5.95 Don't BUY A WATCH

before seeing our 17 jeweled movement, patent regulator, is quick train, stamped 17 jewels, adjusted. Beautifully engraved gold-filled model case, the "Imperial" with certificate for 25 years. Sent by Express with privilege of thorough examination, before you pay one cent. Absolutely guaranteed by one of the oldest and most reliable jewelers in America. If found best value ever given, pay Exp. agt. our Special Price, \$5.95 and exp. charges. Jeweled Elgin or Waltham name price 12 preferred. FREE, rolled gold, 50 in. Lorgnette chain for ladies, or vest chain for gents, guaranteed 5 yrs. Give both \$10.00 and exp. office a state plainly whether ladies or gents' size. Offer can't be continued long. Write today.

ALLEN & CO., Wholesale Jewellers, Dept. 12, 407 to 521 Dearborn Street, CHICAGO, ILL.

The Household.

(Continued.)

The "Ready for Christmas" Club.

(A prize article in our recent contest.)

When our club was organized, it was resolved that we would find something to do that would be helpful, either to ourselves or to our friends. Otherwise we would disband and pronounce club work,—as far as our experience extended,—a flat failure.

Originality was our watchword; we determined to be unique or perish in the attempt. After a thorough exchange of ideas and many lengthy discussions on various subjects, we decided upon a name and a purpose. As for the name, "Ready for Christmas" Club explained itself; in regard to purpose, we all united in saying that the preparing of Christmas gifts kept us near the point of nervous prostration during the last three months of each year. If by any means we could avert this condition of things, our club would not be in vain.

After taking stock we found that one of our number was an artist, one was proficient in crocheting and knitting, another could do beautiful drawn work and embroidery, a fourth was a perfect marvel in making fancy aprons, dainty underwear and children's clothing, another had wonderful success in taking and finishing fine photographs. So as each one had her special talent, it was our plan to combine the entire force into one great working whole. In this way the making of Christmas presents would become mere play. Each member prepared a list of persons to whom she wished to give presents; then at the meetings it was decided what each gift should be and who should make it.

The woman who crocheted should make bedroom slippers for the mother of the girl who did pyrography. She should design and burn a lovely frame for the brother of the woman who embroidered sofa pillows. The apron woman should make aprons galore, from substantial ginghams to the daintiest of muslins for aunts, mothers, sisters, and friends. The woman with the kodak should take a lot of views of pretty bits of scenery, familiar corners, family groups, etc., and arrange them in handsome scrap albums to send to the absent ones who would appreciate and enjoy them.

So our work went gaily on. We commenced in February, and long before the snow began flying in the autumn, our Christmas presents were completed, tied up, labeled, and put safely away. Our "Ready for Christmas" Club has made life worth living. Our minds are free from anxiety, our hands ready to help others less fortunate. We have learned what we had never known before; that Christmas is truly the most joyful season of the year.

Mrs. T. A. Shuff.

The Awakening.

Dear old "Mother Earth," a little snow-draped said,
Lifting up the covers of her cozy bed,
Do you hear the children crying for the flowers
Sleeping in your bosom through the wintry hours?

"Give me my white bonnet, tie its ribbons green;
Send me on my journey, though the winds are keen;
Bid me haste and tell them every blossom fair
Soon will waken, smiling, in the soft spring air."

Mira Clarke Parsons.

One Bird.

There is a bird I know so well,
It seems as if he must have sung
Beside my crib when I was young;
Before I knew the way to spell
The name of even the smallest bird
His gentle-joyful song I heard.
Now see if you can tell, my dear,
What bird it is that, every year,
Sings "Sweet-sweet-sweet-very merry cheer."

He comes in March, when winds are strong,
And snow returns to hide the earth;
But still he warms his heart with mirth,
And waits for May.

Henry VanDyke.

FELT ROOFING AT LOWEST PRICES. Two-ply felt roofing 65c for 108 square feet; 92c for three-ply. Less than cost of laying shingles. Red rosin sized shuffling paper, 75c for 500 square feet, weight, 40 pounds. For free samples of roofing or building paper, complete instructions for use, full information and our astonishingly low prices, cut this ad to us. Address **SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., Chicago.**

Camera Free to School Children. For selling 25 boxes of Pocolonias Cold Cream at 25 cents a box. Whittier's or Longfellow's poem's cloth bound for 25 boxes. Pocolonias Wholesale Co., 63 Warrenton St., Boston.

BOYS I Want Names of Farmers AND GIRLS Will give handsome presents for list of names. Send 2c stamp for list of presents and blank for names. **Box B. Carl Williams, Winchester, Ind.**

LADIES! Take orders for MEDICATED SOAPS: 100 per cent profit, cat. free. **Thorner Co., Burlington, Ia.**

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EARN \$8 PER 100 ADDRESSING ENVELOPES. Send 4mm and six 2c stamps for instructions and 100 envelopes. **Y. EUSTACE NOVELTY CO., 534 6th Ave., N. Y.**

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CORN'S Soft & hard, quickly removed. Send fifteen cts. to **NEWELLTON DRUG STORE, Newellton, La.**

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LEMON EXTRACT. It costs 5c. to make a quart of the finest Lemon Extract. Formula, 25c. **J. A. SHELLZOK, 5637 Bishop St., Chicago, Ill.**

EVERYBODY that likes gold, and not wanting work, send stamp for particulars. **Eclipse Co., P. O. Box 763, Plainfield, N. J.**

Free to Every Boy! A punching bag or foot-ball. No money required, simply a couple of hours work. Write to-day. **N. Novelty Supply Co., Olin, Ind., Box 25.**

Your Fortunes told **FREE** by Astrology. Will send complete outline of your life, send birth date and 2c. to pay for adv. **MIE. PELBA, 836 Summit Ave., Milwaukee, Wis.**

Agents Wanted Sell our \$1.00 bottle Sarsaparilla for 35 cents; best seller; 200 per cent profit. Write today for terms and territory. **F. R. GREENE, 59 Dearborn St., Chicago.**

LADIES Send names of five friends and 10c. to pay postage and receive our handsome 32 page magazine a whole year for your trouble. **Carl Williams, Box B. Winchester, Ind.**

WANTED 10 men in each state to travel, tack signs and distribute circulars and samples of our goods. Salary \$50.00 per month, \$3.00 per day for expenses. **KILMAN & CO., CHICAGO. Dept. H. Atlas Block.**

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SMOOTH GALVANIZED WIRE put up 100 lbs. to a bale, gauges from 11 to 14 inclusive. Lengths running up to 250 ft. Per 100 lbs. \$1.40. Fence Staples, all sizes, per 100 lbs. \$2.00. Wire Nails, assorted sizes, per 100 lbs. \$2.50. Barbed Wire, per 100 lbs. \$2.50. Poultry Netting, Field Fence, etc., at low prices. Ask for free catalogue No. 44, on merchandise from the Merchants and Manufacturers of CHICAGO HOUSE WAREHOUSE CO., 30th & Iron Sts., Chicago.

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colored with new "PERFECTION" Dyes make beautiful carpets and rugs that RETAIN THEIR BRILLIANCE FOR YEARS. PERFECTION Dyes are unequalled for fastness to light, air, soap and acids—they are simple, sure, no dull, dingy or uneven effects. Double size packages in leading colors—dyeing TWICE THE AMOUNT OF SINGLE KINDS. We send six large packages, any colors, by mail for 40 cts., 8 for 75 cts., or 1 for 10 cts. Send us your address on postal card receive our booklet "How to Dye" also new shade cards with catalogue of 75 popular colors and information how to get four generous samples free.


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Dr. Z. Hand's Antiseptic Dental Powder prevents decay and imparts brilliancy to teeth. Soli everywhere or mailed on receipt of 25 cents. Try it. Send for free sample.

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This handsome Art P-I-low Top-In beautiful Oil Colors, done in natural Oil Colors that will not fade on heavy Art Sateen 24 x 24 inches. Write for Illustrated Colored Circular of different designs. Order today. Price 35c each, postpaid a year. Write for catalog of Household Goods. It's FREE.

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This paper gives you every week ALL the important news of the world, stated clearly and without bias. It is the only news review that is truly comprehensive; and it is at the same time not padded or bulky. It gives you the wheat without the chaff. It is a time-saver for all busy people. In purpose it is high-toned, healthy and inspiring; it is a protest against sensational journalism. It takes the place of periodicals costing \$2.50 and \$3.00. Try it and you would not be without it for many times its cost—\$1.00 a year. Address: **The PATHFINDER, Washington, D. C.**

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by astrology, past, present and future correctly treated, and success assured in love and business; all mysteries revealed. My horoscopes are said to be most wonderful diviners. Send birth date and 2c stamp and I will send you entirely free, a fully typewritten horoscope of your life, or if you send 10c I will also send a description of the person you should love, and copy of my magazine. Tell me the wonder of the twentieth century because of my true predictions. I believe I can make you successful if you heed my advice. Write at once and let the world's greatest astrologer read your life as the stars reveal it. **PROF. S. K. ASTRO, Box 360, Philadelphia, Pa.**

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Largest, brightest and finest illustrated magazine in the world for 10c a year. (Special offer.) Stories of western life, sketches and fine engraving of grand, scenery, mountains and famous gold mines, ranches, etc. Published by an old and strong publishing house. Send at once. 10c a year postpaid anywhere in the U. S., Canada and Mexico. 6 yrs. 50c, 12 yrs. \$1.00. Clubs of 5 name 50c, 12 for \$1.00. Send us club. Money back if not delighted. Stamps taken. Cut This Out. Send today.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN MAGAZINE, Denver, Colo.

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Send Your Address and Get A Dollar's Worth FREE.

I have a sure quick and lasting cure for Rheumatism. I cure it by means of Vibro Discs, a wonderful new appliance which is used externally and draws out



the poison from every part of the system. It is the wonder of the age, and a god-send to Rheumatic sufferers. There is nothing like it, and nothing equal to it. It banishes pain as if by magic, and conquers this dread disease in all its cruel forms and stages. It is safe, simple and convenient for home use and roots out the acid venom so thoroughly that no relapse or fresh attack can occur. Prove these claims yourself by testing the remedy at my expense. I will send you absolutely free, four of these Vibro Discs—a full dol-



lar's worth—if you simply send me your name and address. This is an absolute gift, and I shall neither ask nor accept pay for it now or in the future. Can you afford to continue in pain and misery when you can get this marvelous new and guaranteed treatment simply for the asking? Write me to-day and I will send you the treatment at once and with an elegant illustrated book on Rheumatism, all free and prepaid. Don't send any money—not even a postage stamp—but send your name and address THIS VERY DAY.

PROF. S. M. WATSON, Dept. 27, Battle Creek, Mich.

An Easy Way for an Invalid to Grow Annuals

(Continued from page three.)

conspicuous when painted a dark gray color, as it is this color the fencing itself soon becomes. In the fall I have the fence removed by pulling up the stakes. The fencing, stakes and all, is rolled together and stored in some out-building during the winter.

The last of April in ordinary seasons, I have the plot ploughed and harrowed and let it lay in this condition until time to transplant the seedlings, with the exception of a narrow strip at one side which is made ready in a few days for Sweet Peas; the seed of these I have sown directly in the ground as soon as the soil gets dry enough. The plot runs east and west lengthwise which is the proper way for rows of Sweet Peas to run, and this makes a favorable as well as an easy place to grow them.

When the time arrives for transplanting the seedlings, I have the remainder of the plot divided by making a path two feet wide through the center, crosswise of the plot. Each of these divisions are marked off into three long narrow beds of equal size, which are, after making paths between them, about fourteen feet long and three feet wide, the length of the beds extending along the length of the plot, not running crosswise. By experimenting I have found this arrangement of the beds, considering convenience and the work required to keep the plot in good condition through the summer, to be the best. I aim to use no more ground than is really necessary for paths, and, therefore, the less beds there are and the more simple their shape, the less space will be required for paths. Not only would this be an economy of space, but of work also, as there would be less beds to shape and less paths and sides of beds to keep free from weeds during the summer, and so in this there is a double saving. However, in economizing ground, I find there is no wisdom in making wider beds than these and thus do away with some of the paths, or in making narrow paths, for reasons which will be referred to later.

After marking out the beds I have only the bed made up that I intend to immediately fill with the seedlings; the others are made up one at a time as I want to fill them. My reason for this is that when all the beds are made up at once, if the sun is shining, the surface of the soil in the beds which are waiting for the plants, becomes dust dry while the first bed is being filled, and such a condition of the soil is not favorable for the best results in transplanting.

To prepare a bed for the seedlings I have the soil made light and fine by spading it up with a manure fork inside the line which has been drawn with a hoe when marking out the beds. Large clots of soil are broken fine by tossing them up in the air a short distance and catching them on the tines of the fork as they fall, repeating this until broken into fine pieces.

I have found it necessary to do some inventing after the seedlings were ready to be planted out as well as in growing the seedlings from the start; so, in order to make it possible for an invalid to bend over beds transplanting seedlings or weeding, I have the beds raised about six inches higher than the paths around them; yet the surface of the beds is no higher in the plot than the surrounding ground outside of it. In reality the paths are lowered instead of the beds being raised. These elevated beds have nothing more to recommend them than the ease they lend to the work of transplanting and weeding, and many would condemn them on the plea that they dry out more quickly than beds on a level with the paths; yet my annuals have always withstood the effects of drouths remarkably well, and I have had the beds made up in this way every year but one during the past seven years.

After it has received its share of the soil from the path, the bed is leveled a trifle, and the fertilizer applied. I use a very small quantity of old, decomposed stable manure and a generous coat of

commercial fertilizer. My annuals grow well and bloom profusely; and, because of using but little stable manure, the soil does not dry out quickly even in these elevated beds. Some years I have used only the commercial fertilizer with excellent results.

After the fertilizers are stirred in, the soil is leveled with a hoe, bringing it near the edges to make as perpendicular a bank as possible around the bed with out having the soil fall into the path; small stones and lumps of soil are raked off, the sides of the beds are made smooth and firm with the flat of the hoe, and then the bed is ready for the plants. When I transplant the seedlings into the beds I lay a rug in the path and sit down with my feet drawn under me; which I find much easier than the kneeling posture necessary to assume when the beds are not higher than the paths.

Hattie L. Dudley Knight.

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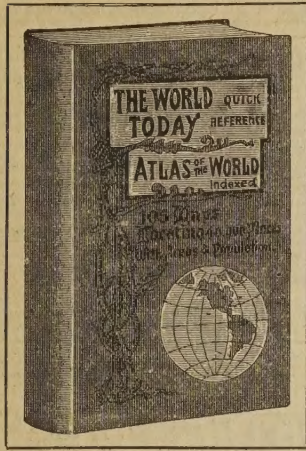
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Mother's Meeting.

(Continued from page ten.)

this child—encouraged by serious study and nurse lore, it is proposed to plant "heartsease" in many mother's lives. A report of conditions and results is begged. The portraits of the heartsease babies are craved as a boon. Oh! I know just how precious their lives will seem, how extra loving and sweet their baby faces will look, as though Love's sunshine had beautified them because fear was banished from the time when motherhood blossomed into joyful willingness and assisted in creating a temple for another soul. Alas! the mute, desperate, useless inner rebellion against undesired and forced maternity still goes on—"how long, how long! There's a better time coming—let us help it on."

Young Mother's Scrapbook.

Train the babe to sleep alone, to go to sleep unrocked and in the dark, but do it as gently as firmly! Consider, some are less nervous by nature, and use tact with each case where fear seems to exist. To not rock the babe while nursing is a help to this result. To put it down after meals are finished is a help also; for babies love to cuddle at such times to an extent which unchecked will later increase to a burdensome privilege for a busy mother.

Learn to follow "holding out" the babe; if begun and pursued early enough, most three month's children can be released from diapers—to the great saving of mother's time and strength and great gain in comfort and cleanliness for the child (see Tokology). Do not leave a bottle with a baby who is going to sleep. Since he has been robbed of the mother's breast give him the only substitute, i. e., snuggle him close in as natural a manner as may be, near to the mother heart, peeping up into mother-eyes at the love he feels, sees, needs, but does not understand.

Keep baby smelling sweet! This means cleanliness, of bibs, diapers, and underwear.

Beware of short, plump pillows. Many babies, growing strong of muscle and back, are smothered yearly by such means. They turn over on face and stomach and can not turn back. Make the pillow rather flat, thin, inclined to hardness, and full length of the crib. Avoid cribs with wide open spaces on sides. Many a child under two years thrusts itself through these and is seriously injured.

Have two or several thick bed-pads. Alternate these and cleanse freely. Put mattress in strong sunlight at least once a week, and keep all the bedding clean.

Pin your faith to "botanical remedies," or herbs. Our grandmothers knew the value of hot catnip teas for stomach pain and colds; of sage for fevers, senna for worms as also pumpkin seed for bladder troubles. Dried and neatly compressed into packages, one can for five cents buy of any druggist any herb desired. Do not steep too much at a time—if a large quantity is prepared alcohol or whiskey is added to preserve from fermentation and this is an undesirable addition.

Delicate babies bathed and fed rightly may outstrip the seemingly vigorous. Oil rubs, salt baths, alcohol spongings, dumb bell games, deep breathing, greatly alter the health for good. Have one of those luxurious bath aprons which set the baby hunting in their soft folds, forgetting to cry, learning to enjoy the bath hour and perfectly insured against cold draughts. It is useless to make one at home as the cost is greater, comfort and beauty less, and a few washings harden flannel ones. The manufactured ones have no rivals in any point imaginable.

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Chasing the stars from the bright skies away;

After the Winter the bloom o' the May,
And the rosiest top o' the mornin'!

Sorrow's a shadow, and swiftly it goes—
Even as a river that oceanward flows;
Over the ruin the red o' the rose,
And love, and the Light o' the mornin'!

F. L. Stanton.

A Cold.

He has a cold, and life no more
Is fair and radiant as of yore.
For him the earth is full of chills
And potions, capsules, salves and pills,
Hot baths and blankets, coughs and tears,
Advice and sympathy and sneers;
Red eyes that mark a present plight,
Without the gleam of yesternight.
And friends declare, " 'Twill soon be well
Or else 'twill kill you; who can tell?"
Of all the ill life can unfold,
His is the worst who has a cold!

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How frequently we see in the papers mention of a suicide and the cause tersely given 'despondent over ill health.' How unnecessary is this violation of God's express command!

For every ill from which we suffer bounteous Nature has provided for a remedy. If you suffer from Indigestion, Dyspepsia and Flatulence; if you are tortured and weakened by constipation; if you have weak or diseased kidneys, inflammation of the bladder or enlargement of the prostate gland, you should sit right down this minute and write to the Vernal Remedy Co., 407 Seneca Building, Buffalo, N. Y. for a free sample bottle of

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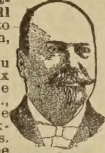
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The intelligent farmer, the man who makes a business of farming, is constantly looking for better methods of farming—methods which will yield him a greater profit with less waste and less labor. He wants to count upon results with greater certainty than in the past. He does not want to be wholly dependent upon the caprices of Nature, but wants to bring Science to the aid of Nature—to make two blades of grass grow where one grew before.

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American Agriculture, in spite of its extent and its great accomplishments, is yet in its infancy. We dare not even dream of, much less predict, what will be accomplished by it and for it in the present century.

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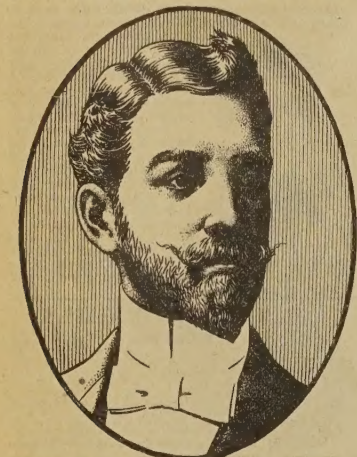
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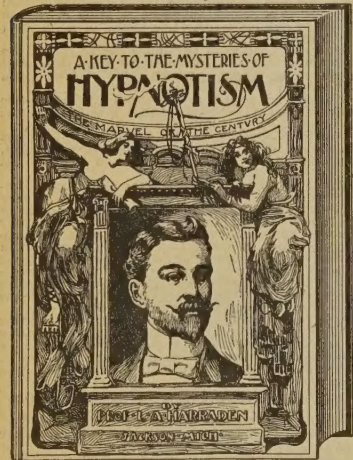
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New and Old Wonders.

The seven world wonders of antiquity were:

The pyramids, Babylon's gardens, Mausolus' tomb, the temple of Diana, the Colossus of Rhodes, Jupiter's statue by Phidias, and the Pharos of Egypt, or, as some substitute, the palace of Cyrus.

The seven wonders of the middle ages were:

The coliseum of Rome, the catacombs of Alexandria, the great wall of China, Stonehenge, the leaning tower of Pisa, the porcelain tower of Nankin and the mosque of St. Sophia at Constantinople.

How will these compare with the seven wonders of the modern world? Perhaps there may be a difference of opinion as regards the latter-day wonders, but permit me to name these:

The steam railroad, the telegraph, the telephone, the wireless telegraph, the ocean steamship, the submarine man-of-war and the airship.

We of the new world have a few wonders, seven of which are:

The Brooklyn bridge, the underground railroad, including tunnels to Jersey City and Brooklyn; the Washington monument, the Capitol at Washington, with its dome, weighing 8,000,000 pounds; the modern steel sky-scraper, the Echo Mountain searchlight of 375,000,000 candle-power, and the United States Steel corporation.

We are speaking of things made by man; of those wonders given to us by God the seven are:

Niagara Falls, the Mammoth cave, Old Faithful, the tireless geyser in Yellowstone park, the big trees (Sequoia) of California, the Grand canyon of the Colorado, the great fresh water lakes and the Great Salt lake.

New York Press.

Spring.

(A prize poem in our late contest.)

Spring is coming, do you know it?
Sends her greeting from afar.
By the brook the hazel bushes
Tassel-lanterns hanging are.

Now Jack Frost will soon be leaving,
Bidding to our clime farewell,
Be returning to the northland,
There his merry pranks to tell.

How he bound the brook in winter
With the silv'y chains of ice,
Till the sun to break its fetters,
Found in smiles a sure device.

Now again she goes with singing,
Rippling, rippling on her way;
Calls to life the little flowers,
Bids them join her springtime play.

In the fields the little grasses,
Lifting up are thankful heads;
In the gardens dainty daisies,
Peeping are from cosy beds.

And the violets blue are wafting
Perfume sweet upon the breeze,

FITS Permanently cured. No fits or nervousness after first day's use of Dr. Kline's Great Nerve Restorer. Send for Free \$2.00 trial bottles and treatise. Dr. R. H. Kline, Ltd., 381 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa.

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Landsfeld did it. \$1.00. UNION CHEMICAL WORKS, Dept. V., Minneapolis, Minn.

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Our 200-page book, "The Origin of Stammering," with full particulars regarding treatment, sent Free to any Stammerer. LEWIS STAMMERING SCHOOL, 67 Adelaide St., Detroit, Mich.

\$10 Premium With \$10 Order.

Lady agents wanted everywhere. Best offer out. Write for price list and premium list. General agents wanted. Great Atlantic Tea Co., Mansfield, O.

A 40c. BOX Given to any lady suffering with ailment peculiar to our sex who will send the names and addresses of ten other ladies with same ailments. Address: MRS. HARRIET Y. HARTMAN, South Bend, Ind.

A Beautiful Woman should have Beautiful Hair
HAIR-NUTRO.
The new tonic Hair Wash. Makes the Hair, soft, luxuriant, glossy, eradicates dandruff. 25c. Sample for trial 10c. Liberal offer to agents. J. A. ROOKS, 123 Center Street, Bangor, Maine.

\$3 a Day Sure Send us your address and we will show you how to make \$3 a day absolutely sure; we furnish the work and teach you free, you work in the locality where you live. Send us your address and we will enroll the business fully, remember we guarantee a clear profit of \$3 for every day's work, absolutely sure. Write at once. ROYAL MANUFACTURING CO., Box 1027, Detroit, Mich.

STOMACH TROUBLES CURED

If you suffer from Dyspepsia, Stomach, Liver, or Bowel Trouble of any kind, read this liberal offer. IT WILL BE WORTH MONEY TO YOU.



Do you suffer from Dyspepsia, indigestion, or stomach, liver, or bowel trouble of any kind? If you do, why not let us cure you? We do not mean help you by dosing you with a strong, stimulating Soda and Rhubarb Compound, or patent "Dyspepsia Pill." Such things will stimulate and ease temporarily, but in the end will only irritate and further weaken the already diseased and weakened membranes. We will completely and permanently cure you. We will go to the very foundation of your trouble, will remove the causes, strengthen and tone up the affected membranes, perfect the digestion, regulate and strengthen the bowels, and make you as strong and hearty as you ever were. We could give you testimonials by the thousand of those we have cured of stomach troubles in all forms and stages, but they would not tell to you what the treatment will do for YOU. The only absolute proof is in the treatment itself, and knowing this Wonderful Cure we have made for others, and believing that we have a treatment that will positively cure any case, no matter how complicated or long standing or how many have failed in the past, that we will send a full two weeks' treatment to any sufferer desiring to give it a trial. Many are cured by this treatment alone. Why not make a trial of it yourself and learn what it will do for you? It is Free. Address: Dr. Peppes Institute of Health, 51 Main St., Battle Creek, Mich.

HOUSEKEEPERS, ATTENTION!

Save your knives, spoons, time and labor by sending 10 cents silver and a 2 cent stamp for a Perfect Cleaner and Scraper. It removes burnt, incrustated food or other substances from cooking utensils of all kinds. Best housekeepers recommend it. Must be used to be appreciated. E. OWENS HOLLOWAY, 421 N. Second St., Camden, N. J.

GOLD TEETH THE LATEST FAD. FILL YOUR own teeth. A gold plated shell that fits any tooth. Easily adjusted. Remains in place. Looks like regular dentist's work. Fools them all. 10c EACH or 12 for 50c. Z. Fargo Mds. Co., Frenchtown, N. J.

EVERYONE MADE BEAUTIFUL Youthful, with perfect health and a clear rosy complexion. Our method cannot fail. Send stamp. Beauty Health Culture Co., N., South Orange, N. J.

De PHYSTER'S MONTHLY REGULATOR Brings happiness to thousands of women. Free sample sent. Willys Chemical Co., New Haven, Ct.

ENDLESS WIRE Two distinct pieces of wire with four ends, yet you can't get them apart. Most puzzling novelty of the century. Ablest minds are baffled. Sample by mail 10c. J. Madison Miller, 293 Marion St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

100 Visiting Cards, any name, engraver's style only 30c prepaid, 50 for 20c. Agts. send stamp for samples. A. J. Kirby, 80 V. Ash St., Fall River, Mass.

ECZEMA Permanently cured! Our guarantee is backed by a National Bank. Booklet free. Munter Chemical Co., 6039 (D) Indiana Ave., Chicago, Ill.

Steel Combination Monkey and Pipe Wrench for Nuts, Rods, Pipe. Instantaneous adjustment. For circulars and prices, address, ST. JOSEPH SUPPLY HOUSE, St. Joseph, Mo., Dep't. "D."

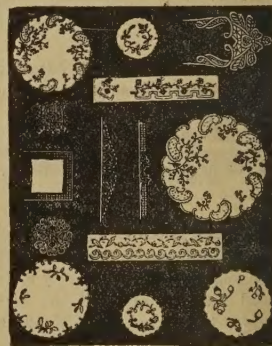
SHEET MUSIC Send one dime for greatest Ragtime Two-Step, "COTTON PICKERS," and cat. of 1000 other 10c pieces. The Ray Co., 255-2nd St., Memphis, Tenn.

BEAUTIFUL PRESENTS FREE

WE ARE GIVING AWAY THE MOST LIBERAL PREMIUMS EVER OFFERED

Fourteen pieces of beautiful Linen and Lace Designs, and The Pilgrim one year, for only \$1.00.

NO LADY should miss this great opportunity to get these desirable premiums and the highest class dollar magazine in the country, for the price of either.



FOR THE MEN, and women too, The Pilgrim's Course of Physical Training, a book on scientific physical culture in three departments, for men, women and children; together with The Pilgrim one year, for only \$1.00.

THE PILGRIM and any one of a dozen other high grade magazines, only \$1.00.

Write for further particulars of the above and complete list of liberal premium offers.

The Pilgrim Magazine Company, Ltd.,
Battle Creek, Michigan.

Cure Women

OF FEMALE DISEASES AND PILES

I Will Cure You So That You Will Stay Cured—Women No Longer Need Submit to Embarrassing Examinations and Big Doctor Bills.

To Show Good Faith and to Prove to You That I Can Cure You I Will Send Free a Package of My Remedy to Every Sufferer.

I hold the secret of a discovery which has never failed to cure women of piles or female weakness. Falling of the womb, painful menstrual periods, leucorrhea, granulation, ulceration, etc., are very readily cured by my treatment. I now offer this priceless secret to the women of America, knowing that it will always effect a cure, no matter how long you have suffered or how many doctors have failed.

I do not ask any sufferer to take my unsupported word for this, although it is true as gospel. If you will send me your name and address, I will send you a trial package absolutely free, which will show you that you can be cured. The free trial packages alone often are enough to cure. Just sit down and write me for it today.

Mrs. Cora B. Miller, Box No. 41, Kokomo, Ind.

FITS CURED

IN TWELVE WEEKS

A Wonderful Remedy is Found that Permanently Cures this Terrible Disease. YOU MAY TEST IT FREE.



S. J. Colwell, of Detroit, Mich., writes: "Our boy is entirely cured of those awful fits, and is now in school every day. He has not had a spell in many months, and before taking the twelve weeks' treatment of you, he had them daily. Our family doctor who knows of the cure thinks it wonderful, and took your address, saying he thought everyone afflicted that way should know of it. If you have fits, or nervous troubles of any kind, you should make a thorough test of this wonderful treatment at once. It will cure you. So positive am I that I can cure any case of fits, no matter of how long standing, that I will send a full two weeks' test treatment with my 'Guide For Epileptics,' to any sufferer asking for it. In many cases the fits are stopped by this test treatment alone. It has cured thousands where all else had failed. Why not make a trial of it yourself, and learn what it will do for you? IT IS FREE. Address Dr. Chas. W. Green, 75 Monroe St., Battle Creek, Mich."

100 LOTS To Advertise Our New

FREE

York suburban properties, first 100 persons sending stamp, given one lot free. Title perfect. Seaside M. Co., 187 Broadway, N. Y.

FREE GOLD WATCH

This fully warranted Solid Gold Plated Watch, equal in appearance to a \$35.00 Gold Filled Watch warranted 20 years, is given FREE to Boys and Girls or anyone for selling 20 pieces of our handsome jewelry at 10c. each. Send your address and we will send the jewelry postpaid, when sold send us the \$2 and we will positively send you the watch, also a chain for quick work. Write to—
ERIE MFG. CO., Dept. 6 Chicago

MARJORA The Modern Beauty Wash
Takes the place of powder and pomades, smooths out wrinkles, removes pimples, blackheads, etc. and relieves all roughness and redness of the skin. Price \$1.00 per bottle.
SPECIAL: To the first lady in each locality naming this paper and sending 50c. [silver] we will send a full size bottle by mail postpaid. Cream City Specialty Co., 800 Grove St., Milwaukee, Wis.

Lucky Stone Free

for 30 days: a booklet on the original and unequalled talismanic jewel, Ojo de Buey, will be sent to any address on receipt of stamp, giving privilege of 30 days free trial of the jewel. M. M. L. writes, Jan. 10, 1904, from Delphos, O.; "I owe my life to Ojo de Buey, having planned to go away New Year's, but looked to Ojo de Buey and the word appeared No. I did not go, and the train I was to take was wrecked, killing ten persons. I wish I had sent for it before." GEO. E. BENTON & CO., 129 1/2 Tremont St. Boston, Mass.

A PRESENT.

SEND us your address and we will make you a present of the best Automatic WASHING MACHINE in the World. No wash-board or rubbing needed. We want you to show it to your friends, or act as agent if you can. You can COIN MONEY. We also give a HANDSOME WATCH to the first from each county. Address Room 4, N. Y. LAUNDRY WORKS, 80 Murray St. N. Y.

While the birds their love-harps waking
Are among the leafless trees.

Soon the branches will be flaunting
Banners of the deepest green,
Making of this world of ours
All a bright-hued fairy scene.

Don't you love the happy spring-time,
With its singing birds and bowers
Welcome, to you, coming springtime,
With your ever changing hours.
Ned de Lessele.

The Best Novels.

The Back Bay Literary circle of Boston recently voted on what the members considered the best novels. These received the majority of votes:

- Best sensational novel, "Woman in White," Collins.
- Best historical novel "Kenilworth," Scott.
- Best dramatic novel, "Jane Eyre," Bronte.
- Best marine novel, "Red Rover," Cooper.
- Best country life novel, "Lorna Doone," Blackmore.
- Best military novel, "Charles O'Malley," Lever.
- Best religious novel, "Hypatia," Kingsley.
- Best sporting novel, "Digby Grand," Melville.
- Best political novel, "Coningsby," Disraeli.
- Best novel written for a purpose, "Uncle Tom's Cabin," Stowe.
- Best imaginative novel, "Marble Faun," Hawthorne.
- Best pathetic novel, "Silas Marner," Eliot.
- Best humorous novel, "Pickwick Papers," Dickens.
- Best English novel, "Adam Bede," Eliot.
- Best American novel, "Scarlet Letter," Hawthorne.
- Best novel in all "Henry Esmond," Thackeray.

Catalogues Received.

We are pleased to acknowledge the receipt of the following catalogues from prominent and reliable dealers.

- The Baldwin Dry Air Refrigerators. Baldwin Refrigerator Co., Burlington, Vt.
- Wholesale Trade Catalogue, P. J. Berckman's Company, Augusta, Ga.
- The New Shasta Daisies, "Alaska," "California," "Westralia," Luther Burbank, Santa Rosa, Cal.
- New Floral Guide, 1904, Conard & Jones Co., Rose Growers, West Grove, Pa.
- New Guide to Rose Culture, Dingee & Conard, West Grove, Pa.
- General Catalogue, 1904. Ellwanger & Barry, Mount Hope Nurseries, Rochester, N. Y.
- Novelties and Specialties, Ellwanger & Barry, Mount Hope Nurseries, Rochester, N. Y.
- How to Spray, When to Spray, and What Pumps to Use, The Goulds Mfg. Co., Seneca Falls, N. Y.
- The Humphrey Pure Air Brooder, Humphrey & Sons, Joliet, Ill.
- A Few Choice Seeds and Plants, John D. Imlay, 54 N. Fifth St., Zanesville, Ohio.
- Kelsey's Hardy American Rhododendrons, Azaleas, Kalmias, and Other Rare Native Plants. Harlan P. Kelsey, Boston, Mass.
- Floral Catalogue, 1904, Nanz & Neuner, Louisville, Ky.
- Seed and Plant Guide, 1904, H. W. Buckbee.
- American Farmers' Manual, Peter Henderson & Co., New York, N. Y.

CANCER CURED

WITH SOOTHING, BALMY OILS.
Cancer, Tumor, Catarrh, Piles, Fistula, Ulcers, Eczema and all Skin and Womb Diseases. Write for Illustrated Book. Sent free. Address
DR. BYE, Cor. 9th & Broadway, Kansas City, Mo.

SILK REMNANTS. No little odds and ends, but all nice large pieces suitable for crazy work, biscuit work, cushions, head rests, etc. Large package sent postpaid for ten cents. For 8 cents extra and the names and addresses of five ladies who buy goods by mail we will also send you an elegant silk and lace collar.
EMMA J. DAVIS & CO., Wellsboro, Pa.

Nursery Catalogue, Spring 1904, Lewis Roesch, Fredonia, N. Y.

Wholesale Price List of Bulbs, Plants, Roots, etc., Vick & Hill Co., Rochester, N. Y.

Opal Refrigerators. Eureka Refrigerator Co., Indianapolis, Ind.

Descriptive Catalogue, 1904. George A. Sweet Nursery Company, Dansville, N. Y.

Hardy Ferns and Flowers, Southwick Nurseries. Edward Gillett, Southwick, Mass.

A Fine Kidney Remedy.

Mr. A. S. Hitchcock, East Hampton, Conn. (The Clothier), says if any sufferer from Kidney and Bladder Disease will write him, he will direct them to the perfect home cure he used. He makes no charge whatever for the favor.

EVERY LADY READ THIS

Years ago when I was a sufferer, an old nurse told me of a wonderful cure for Leucorrhea, Displacements, Painful Periods, Uterine and Ovarian troubles. It cured me in one month. It is a simple, harmless lotion that can be prepared by any one having the recipe. I will send it free to every suffering sister who writes to me. Address
Mrs. C. G. HUDNUT, South Bend, Ind.

If You Have Rheumatism

and will write to the Magic Foot Draft Co., Courtland St., Jackson, Mich., mentioning this paper, they will send a pair of their foot drafts, free on approval, to try. If you are satisfied with the benefit received from the drafts, you are expected to send one dollar to pay for them. If not, send nothing. You decide. This Company claims to have cured many prominent people in every country on earth with their simple cheap remedy. They all get the drafts without paying a cent in advance, and you can now do the same.

WRINKLINE is sold under guarantee to remove most obstinate wrinkles in three applications, price 25c postpaid in plain wrappers—Maple Specialty Co., Box 103 New Durham, N. J.

10c. CONUNDRUMS. 10c.
Over 1,000 up-to-date ones. Bright. Witty. Just the thing, a new book.
The Hamilton Co., Dept. V., Concord, N. H.

Darken Your Gray Hair



DUBY'S OZARK HERBS restore gray, streaked or faded hair to its natural color, best of trial package. Prevents hair from falling out, promotes its growth, cures and prevents dandruff, and gives the hair a soft, glossy and healthy appearance. IT WILL NOT STAIN THE SCALP. It is not sticky or dirty, contains no sugar of lead, nitrate silver, copperas, or poisons of any kind, but is composed of roots, herbs, bark and flowers. **PACKAGE MAKES ONE PINT.** It will produce the most luxuriant tresses from dry, coarse and wiry hair, and bring back the color it originally was before it turned gray. Full size package sent by mail, postpaid, for 25 cents. **OZARK HERB CO., Block 27, St. Louis, Mo.**

MAGNETIC MENDING TISSUE

A necessity for every household. This wonderful invention will mend rents, tears and holes in clothing, silk dresses, woolen and cotton garments, umbrellas, gloves, shoes, furs, carpets, mackintoshes, stockings, tents, etc. Excellent for patching. Lasts permanently. Send 10 cents for trial package. Boys and girls send name and address, and we will send you 20 packages with full instructions and premium list. When sold send the \$2.00, and we will send you the Special Premium, a handsome Varnish valued at \$1.50, or any premium selected. Vernon Tissue Mfg. Co., 57 S. 4th Ave., Mt. Vernon, N.Y.

Cancer Cured.

No Knife. No Blood. No Poison Drugs. No Pain until Cured. Investigate me and my treatment. Book and Testimonials free. Reference Columbia National Bank. Address — DR. E. E. GRAY, 215 South Ills. St., Indianapolis, Ind.

BED-WETTING and all bladder and urinary troubles cured. EN-U-RE-SINE



cures Bed-Wetting, and incontinence of urine during the day-time, both in the old and young. It is the only cure prepared by a physician who guarantees it. Ladies troubled with a frequent desire to urinate and a burning sensation use it with perfect success. Send your address to DR. F. E. MAY, Drawer 2, Bloomington, Ill., and receive sealed a free sample.

Walking With Death YOU AT THIS MOMENT



are, perhaps, arm in arm with the monster and do not know your peril!
If you have the least trouble with your heart, death is ever by your side watching—waiting, till, by some little over exertion, you give the chance to instantly strike out your life.
DEATH FROM HEART FAILURE COMES WITH-OUT A SECOND'S WARNING! The rapid increase of Heart Disease is awful—appalling. Six people in every ten have some trouble with their heart. Most of them don't know it, and are doctoring the stomach, kidneys, or female organs when these troubles are really only SYMPTOMS caused by the wrong heart, which controls every other organ of the body. Nine cases in ten the NERVES are affected, too—the one disease brings on the other. It is useless to treat the heart alone. The nerves also must be restored.
If you have never examined your heart and nerves, do so now. If you already know that they are diseased and weak—even if the trouble is deep-seated, of years' standing, and has an awful, almost deadly hold, and everything you've tried has failed—don't give up, for help is here!
If you need this help, write us and we will send you by mail, free and postpaid, without any conditions, without restrictions, and without cost,

A FULL FREE BOTTLE OF DR. FULLER'S HEART & NERVE TABLETS

and illustrated book which tells you all about these diseases and just how to take the tablets and be well. Both are FREE. This offer is to prove to you what the tablets will do. We already know, but you do not. We have tested them in over forty thousand cases. They failed, on an average, once in each 204 trials. In almost every failure was some other incurable trouble which made a cure impossible. Can you wonder at our faith? Yours may be one of the few incurable cases—we do not yet know—but this test will tell—and the test cost YOU nothing. The risk—the cost—is ours. For more than a year we have spent the whole receipts of our great business to tell sick and discouraged people of our remedy—to make them this offer. The very fairness of the thing shows our confidence. If it were a common remedy, or if it failed often, we could not do this, for our success depends upon the good it does—the cures it makes. One reason why the Tablets cure such hopeless cases is because they not only strengthen and regulate the heart, but also revitalize and restore every nerve and nerve centre in the body.

YOU CANNOT MISTAKE THESE SURE SYMPTOMS. Go over them carefully. Have you pain, tenderness, or numbness around the heart? In left side? arm, or shoulder blade? palpitation? fluttering? skipping beats? short breath? panting from going up stairs? choking? numb, faint, sinking, deathly spells? dizziness? nightmare? asthma? swelling legs? Are you NERVOUS? Irritable? easily tired out? frightened? or excited? Do you have creeping sensations? hot flashes? hysterics? melancholy? dread? loss of memory? Are you weak and run down?

No case has all, some of the worst only a few. If, therefore, you have one or two, your heart and nerves are surely wrong. Delay means danger—sudden death! Can you refuse help—yes, life—when offered you like this? Address plainly,

THE HEART CURE CO.
127 MASONIC BUILDING, HALLOWELL, MAINE.

A. C. HOWLAND, M.D., one of New York's most noted physicians, says: "Since 1899 I have prescribed your Tablets in a great many cases of Heart and Nerve diseases, and as yet without a single failure. They are a very wonderful remedy."

ABOUT

Oyster Omelet

Put six eggs very light and mix with a half a cup of cream, with sugar to taste. If the cream be feared it may be substituted. Put a teaspoonful of butter in a hot frying pan and when it is melted pour in the beaten eggs and cream. Before the mixture is firm put in eighteen small cubes of butter and when the mixture is a delicate brown, remove and serve. The frying pan should be kept on a moderate fire, in fact the cooking process will not be too rapid.

Prepare a quart of salt batter. Heat frying-pan on the fire with boiling oil. A ladleful of batter with a hole in the center in the fryer and let fry brown. When done, take up and brown paper and serve.

Game Pie

For this all same is suitable, from salt to venison. Make first a thickening enough thick, rich gravy to come meat in a boiling dish. Cover with rich meat dough, or, if preferred with paste, rolling either rather thin. Bake so quickly that the top brown, but the paste is cooked through.

Celery Salad.

To white parts of the celery alone to
boil. Freshen the vegetable in cold wa-
ter, and very crisp, then cut into slices
each piece, and add sufficient may-
on dressing to make the whole to
be heap in a mound on a long
thicken cut into dice may

Thanksgiving Cake

80 two and a half pounds
 and six three teaspoon
 powder. Cream two
 and three pounds of
 with eighteen well
 of beaten alone
 of current jelly
 and lemon peel at
 of cinnamon
 in a large cant
 and a half
 to tongue and

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...cubator Now.
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POULTRY

BREAK

Get an Incubator

time of the

HEALTH & BEAUTY

are good

THE HOUSE OF FASHION
BY M. I.

Street Frock
among

FLORENTINE
Plants for Hanging
Among Bays

FLORICULTURE

Plants for Hanging Baskets.
Among basket plants, the best are those which grow the plants from them when the supply. For this reason this su

THE WOMAN'S MAGAZINE, of St. Louis, is now the greatest Magazine in the world, having **One Million Five Hundred Thousand** (1,500,000) subscribers, almost double the number of subscribers any other magazine or newspaper in the world has. Each issue is filled with splendid stories, beautiful engravings, special departments of Floriculture, Fancy-work, Fashions, Household, Health and Beauty, Poultry and Garden, and in addition, it is the only Magazine in the world that is illustrating the glories and beauties and wonders of the Great World's Fair. Each issue special photo-engravings of the great buildings and wonders of the Fair are given, many of these engravings being 2 feet by 1 foot in size.

There is a reason why THE WOMAN'S MAGAZINE has more than double the number of subscribers that any other publication in the world has: if a reader of THE WOMAN'S MAGAZINE wishes to know anything about the latest styles, THAT month's issue gives them; if some bug is destroying her plants, THAT month's issue tells her what it is and how to get rid of it; if fruits are to be preserved, THAT month's issue tells all about them. THE WOMAN'S MAGAZINE **always** tells its readers what they want to know at the **right time**. From 96 to 138 columns each issue of splendid pictures, interesting stories, useful information: Flowers, the Garden, Lace Making, Embroidery (with new and beautiful patterns each month that **any** woman can make), Cooking Receipts, Fashions, Poultry, Pets, Household Decoration, Pyrography, Curious Facts, Health and Beauty columns; each issue supplies reading for the whole family. In addition to this, interesting and exciting contests are given its readers and they are now engaged in a simple contest in which each has an opportunity to come to the Great World's Fair no matter where they live, as the guest of THE WOMAN'S MAGAZINE, with all their expenses paid. **You can have the same opportunity.**

THE WOMAN'S MAGAZINE never permits misleading advertisements to appear in its columns and absolutely protects its readers so that they are not defrauded by catch-penny schemes. No whiskey ads., no nasty medical ads. are ever found in THE WOMAN'S MAGAZINE. It is clean, honest, beautiful and bright. A single issue is worth more than the whole year's subscription. We wish every home in America to receive THE WOMAN'S MAGAZINE and in order that it may go into your home, **we will send you THE WOMAN'S MAGAZINE**



and if you do not like it after you have received it for three months, we will return your 10 cents and stop sending it. You will have had it three months for nothing. This shows very plainly that we know you will be pleased with THE WOMAN'S MAGAZINE. You will never be willing to discontinue it. In fact, we know you will be so delighted you will also get your friends to subscribe. No other magazine gives as much for five times the price we ask you.

Do not confuse THE WOMAN'S MAGAZINE of St. Louis with the cheap, poorly printed and trashy story papers. **THE WOMAN'S MAGAZINE** is printed on fine paper, carefully edited and beautifully illustrated and is better than most Magazines sold for ten times the price at which we offer it to you. Our offer to refund your money if you do not like it after three month's trial is a guarantee that no other Magazine ever dared to make.

When you come to the Great World's Fair in St. Louis this year, you will find the great building of THE WOMAN'S MAGAZINE the principal point of interest in the city. It is the most beautiful building in the country, and the finest publishing plant in the world, and is owned and was built by THE WOMAN'S MAGAZINE exclusively for its own use at a cost of five hundred thousand dollars. Each subscriber will be welcomed and looked after as a friend. It will be very nice to have headquarters during the Fair for yourself, family or friends in the finest building in St. Louis just because you are a subscriber to THE

Woman's Magazine

The readers of THE WOMAN'S MAGAZINE always know how to do things. Their gardens and houses are the wonder of their neighbors, because it contains plain, easily understood articles, telling more good things about Flowers and the Garden than regular Floral Papers and always seasonable. More good things about Fancy Work and Embroidery, with illustrated patterns, than Fashion Papers. More good things about Poultry and the Garden, and how to make money with them, than Poultry Papers. More good things about the Kitchen and Household than Household Papers.

ALWAYS SEASONABLE. ALWAYS CORRECT. ALWAYS EASILY UNDERSTOOD.

This is the greatest opportunity you will ever get to secure one of the finest monthly magazines published, **for a whole year for 10 cents**, the price usually charged for a single copy of such a paper. **Do not delay**, but send 10 cents for the year's subscription, stating that you are a reader of **Vick's Family Magazine**.

NOTICE—If you wish to take advantage of this opportunity for your friends, you can send 10 cents each for as many subscriptions as you wish. You could not make a nicer present to your friends than one which will remind them each month, of you, so pleasantly.

THE WOMAN'S MAGAZINE,
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ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

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113 MAGAZINE BLDG.,
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